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SECOND SPECIAL SHOW NUMBER

# THE ILLUSTRATED POULTRY RECORD

*Edited by E. T. Brown*



November  
1912.

*The Advance of the Poultry Industry*



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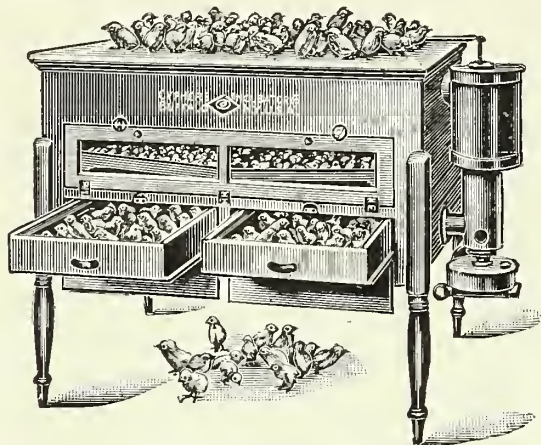
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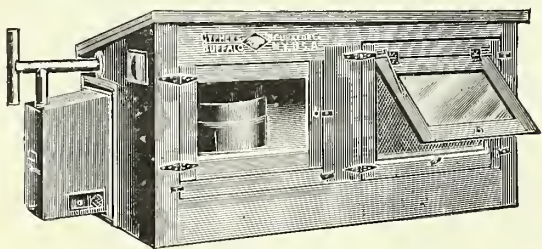
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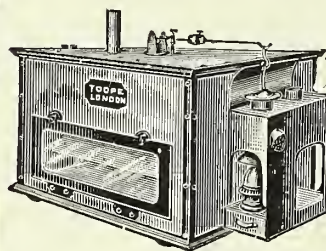
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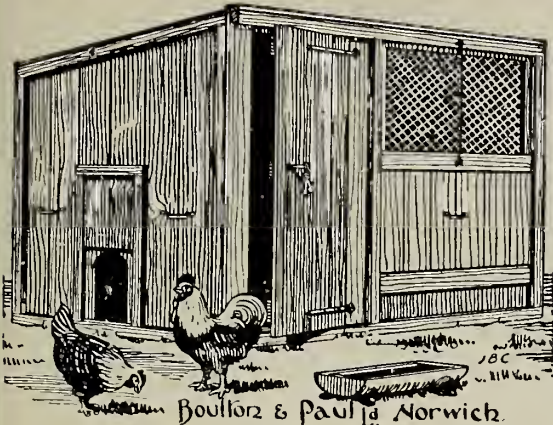
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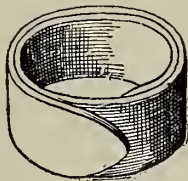
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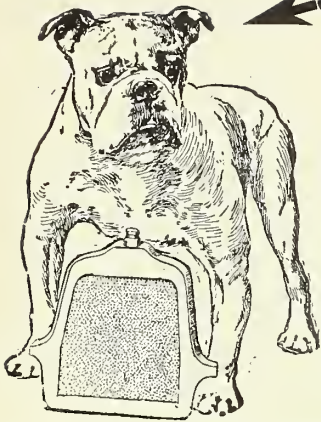
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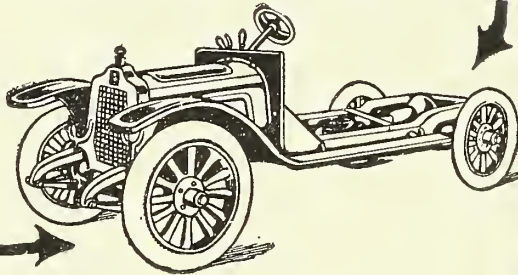
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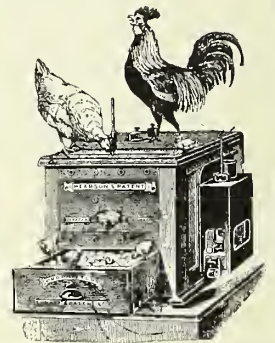
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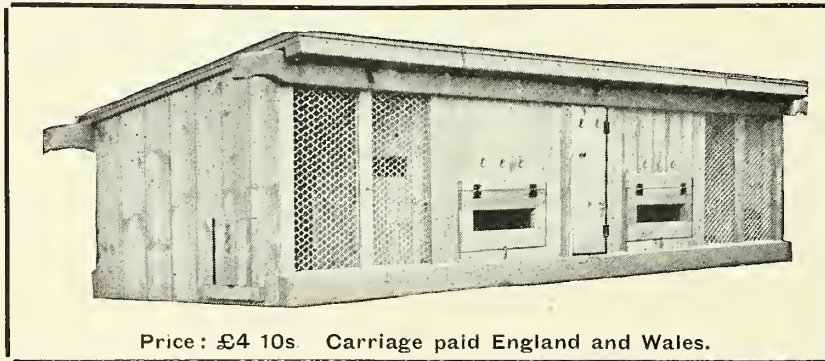
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- (3) Your savings obtain for you a higher rate of interest than can be obtained elsewhere with equal security.
- (4) You get the highest quality goods at lowest prices. As goods are purchased for consumption, not for profit (in the Joint Stock Company sense), there is no temptation to buy inferior stuff, nor put up with adulteration.
- (5) By establishing stores, etc., in centres of production, freight, carriage, portage, and excessive handling of perishable produce will be avoided. You will get vegetables, fruit and eggs direct from the garden, the orchard, and the nest.
- (6) To the **POULTRY-KEEPER**, as well as the Allotment-holder and the Smallholder, this Co-operative enterprise should specially appeal. The high price of **POULTRY FOODS**, purchased individually in small quantities, is an important factor in so appreciably reducing the profits of Poultry-keeping as to render the undertaking unnecessarily speculative. The same remarks apply to the Allotment-holder and Smallholder, as regards the purchase of seeds and other necessities, and, in both cases, there is no outlet for their produce from which reasonable profits can be assured over and above working expenses. These obstacles can be easily and permanently removed by practising Co-operation. Foods, Seeds (as well as every other requisite necessary to Small-husbandry), can be purchased from the stores in small quantities practically at wholesale prices. The waste of time in disposing of produce in small and separate parcels is entirely avoided.

What can be accomplished by Co-operation is vividly illustrated by the economic progress of Denmark. The Danes formed themselves into numerous Co-operative Societies for selling, and, by federating, have become a vast exporting machine. They are a prosperous people. They purchase all their foodstuffs and appliances through their societies. They grade and pack their goods, and send in bulk, thus avoiding excessive charges for separate consignments of small quantities. It is quite obvious that even 1,000 people, producers and consumers, working on Self-help principles, in combination, such as we are adopting, can buy cheaper than an individual, and, by selling again to one another, they can and must effect a great saving. What Denmark has done by combination we also can do. **Everyone will agree that "English" New Laid Eggs can only be laid in England. Denmark exports £1,361,000 worth of eggs annually, many of which, coming to this country are palmed off on the consumer by unscrupulous dealers as 'English New Laid.'**

**£20,000,000**

worth of butter, eggs, and bacon are annually imported into this country from DENMARK. This affords employment for hundreds of thousands of Danes, while our own labour market is hopelessly overcrowded—mainly because our countryside is under-occupied, under-developed, and under-organised.

We are spending this vast sum of money simply and solely because we have not, up to the present, joined hands in the endeavour to **Help Ourselves.**

**A Form of Application will be found on page xi.**





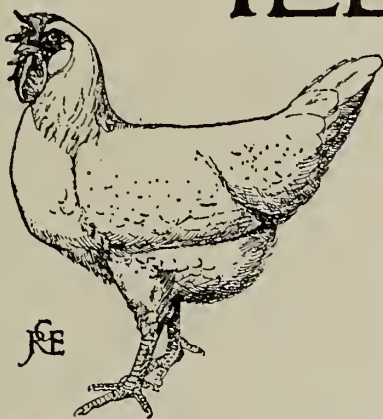


**"DAWN."**

*[Copyright.]*



# THE ILLUSTRATED POULTRY RECORD



Vol. V.—No. 2.

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## DIARY OF THE MONTH.

### EDITORIAL NOTICES.

Telegrams : "VIVACIDAD, FLEET, LONDON."  
Telephone : CITY, 2083

*The Editor will be glad to consider any MSS., photographs, or sketches submitted to him, but they should be accompanied by stamped addressed envelopes for return if unsuitable. In case of loss or injury he cannot hold himself responsible for MSS., photographs or sketches, and publication in the ILLUSTRATED POULTRY RECORD can alone be taken as evidence of acceptance. The name and address of the owner should be placed on the back of all pictures and MSS. All rights of reproduction and translation are reserved.*

*The Editor would like to hear from readers on any Poultry Topics, and all Queries addressed to the paper will be answered by experts in the several departments. The desire is to help those who are in difficulty regarding the management of their poultry, and accordingly no charge for answering such queries is made.*

*The Annual subscription to the ILLUSTRATED POULTRY RECORD at home and abroad is 8s., including postage, except to Canada, in which case it is 7s. Cheques and P.O.O.'s should be made payable to the ILLUSTRATED POULTRY RECORD.*

**The ILLUSTRATED POULTRY RECORD is published on the first of every month. Should readers experience any difficulty in securing their copies promptly they are requested to communicate immediately with the Editor.**

**The latest date for receiving advertisements is the 20th of the month preceeding date of issue.**

**The utmost care is exercised to exclude all advertisements of a doubtful character. If any reader has substantial grounds for complaint against an advertiser he is requested to communicate at once with the Editor.**

### County Poultry Instruction.

The article published in our last issue on Poultry Instructors is fitly supplemented by an important contribution to the current number of the *Journal of the National Poultry Organisation Society* on "County Poultry Institutes and Demonstration Centres." As this has been widely disseminated through the general Press, we do not reproduce it in full. In it are recommendations that, as far as possible, County work of this kind should form part of a general Farm Institute, but the danger is pointed out, of which we are all conscious—namely, "starving the poultry work, or throwing to it merely the leavings when every other section is satisfied." That has to be fought against, for it has been and still is almost universal. If continued we must fight for separate County Poultry Institutes. Suggestions are made in the contribution referred to with respect to the teachers, for which it is urged that "educated men and women are required, and it is desirable that in making appointments the standard of efficiency shall be raised." The suggestion is set forth that the poultry stations shall have five to ten acres allocated to them, and that 200 to 400 head of laying stock shall be maintained, with adequate plant and equipment. Too many of the places now in operation are designed more for small breeders or fanciers than on a scale likely to appeal to farmers.

### Law and Equity.

These two terms are by no means synonymous. What is equitable is not always legal, and *vice versa*. In view, therefore, of the discussion which is taking place as to the decision arrived at by the Poultry Club Committee in reply to



the question, Who is the breeder? there are practical questions which cannot be ignored, and it is well to state these frankly. Supposing that the owner of the bird which laid an egg which he sold to someone else for hatching is declared to be the breeder, what proof is forthcoming that an exhibit at a future show emanated from that egg? The purchaser might not know himself. Another is, supposing the buyer of the egg exhibited a poor specimen, which he stated was from it, would the vendor show the same eagerness to be proclaimed as the breeder? And, further, if, as is often done, a mated pen is sold, will the original owner, who selected the birds, claim to be the breeder? These are questions which must receive an answer, in justification of the claim that the Poultry Club Committee has erred in its decision. It is all a storm in a tea cup, but the onus of proof is on those who object.

#### The Poultry Teachers' Association.

For some time there has been a project for the establishment of a Society of those engaged in Poultry Teaching and Experimental work in the United Kingdom. At a meeting held during the Dairy Show this Association was definitely formed, and it is to be hoped that all those who are engaged in either direction referred to above will support a scheme which is designed to strengthen their position, as well as to increase their knowledge and experience. This is following in the lines of their American *confrères*, who have found their Association of the greatest help, and a better example could not be copied. One of the dangers to which poultry teachers are specially liable is isolation, and lack of that stimulus which arises from interchange of ideas and observation of what others are doing. That, it is hoped, may be overcome. It is, we understand, intended, if possible, to arrange for an annual gathering of those engaged in this work.

#### American Poultry History.

In commemoration of the annual meeting of the American Poultry Association, held this year at Nashville, Tennessee, which appears to have been a great success and much enjoyed by all, the *Western Poultry Journal*, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has published a number which is memorable. A history is given of the Association with records of its earlier meetings, which are of great interest, embodying portraits of many of the leading members from 1874 onwards. One plate reproduces a hundred portraits of members in the year named, in the centre of which is the late Mr. Lewis Wright, so far as we can trace, the only Englishman included in the group. Other plates show older members still

living, and also Presidents and Secretaries from 1874 to the present time. Reproductions are also given of breeds of nearly forty years ago, which clearly indicate the great advance made in poultry portraiture. Some of these would be regarded now as caricatures.

#### Double Mating.

We are glad to note that this question is coming again under consideration in this and other countries. The present condition of affairs cannot be regarded as satisfactory to any save the few skilled breeders and exhibitors who, by the imposition of limitations upon smaller men, reap a considerable advantage. It is well known as a fact that some strains produce better males than females and *vice versa*. How far this is due to bad systems of mating cannot be stated. That, however, is not the point to be considered.

It is evident that where double mating has become the rule it is due to the adoption of standards for the two sexes that are antagonistic, and which are, consequently, false. Unfortunately the evil in some breeds is so strongly entrenched, and the interests involved so powerful, that it will require an upheaval to put right. An attempt should be made, however, now that the whole question of standards appears to be coming under review, and should the proposed World's Poultry Congress be realised that would be an opportunity for thrashing out the subject, and, perhaps, of arriving at a solution of the problem. Meanwhile attackers and defenders should be getting their ammunition ready.

#### The Sale of Preserved Eggs.

Sir James Crichton-Browne, in a recent address, had much to say upon the question of eggs. As a medical man he recognised the importance of securing these as fresh as possible, so that their full value may be obtained, at the same time calling attention to the rapid changes which take place and to the danger arising as a result of staleness. He said that "some of his professional friends in the poorer parts of large towns had told him they have hesitated to prescribe eggs for their patients—typical food though they be—because they could not be sure that they were fresh." That ought to be a stimulus to home production.

Perhaps the most important point in this interesting speech was the recommendation that "all preserved eggs should be marked and sold for what they really are," by which we suppose that each individual egg shall be branded. Were that applied equally to home and imported eggs it would be fair all round. In fact, there would be no protection to the



consumer unless it were generally applied. Whether it is practicable remains to be proved. The object is excellent, if it can be achieved. Some time ago various Chambers of Commerce at home and abroad passed resolutions in favour of marking cold storage eggs, but, if applied to these, limed and water-glass eggs should be treated in the same way.

### The Game King.

Among others mentioned by Professor Long, in his interesting reminiscences published in the present issue, Captain Heaton occupied a unique position as a breeder, not alone of Game fowls, but also of Carrier Pigeons. We have often thought that his biography would be well worth the writing and publication. In whatever animal or bird he handled—that is, racially—he was speedily at the top of the tree. He seemed to possess an intuitive faculty for finding out the best specimens and for mating them to produce better. Yet his training was in other directions. We believe he served in the Crimean War. What took him to Lancashire was an appointment as Adjutant to a body of Volunteers, of which Lord Ellesmere was Colonel. So impressed was the last-named with him that after a time he was made agent of the Ellesmere estates, in which responsible position he continued until his death. There he had full scope. The stud of Shire horses and breed of white pigs were owned by his employer, and became as famous as the Game fowls, which were his own. The climax came when the Captain took almost every possible prize at Birmingham with his Black Reds. Some of his competitors told him they intended giving up, as it was useless contending against him. His reply was to the effect that every bird he had was for sale at fair prices, and that he would only retain one pen. The sale was phenomenal. In three weeks he had disposed of birds to the amount of £1,700. Practically, he retired from exhibiting, although still breeding very fine specimens.

### Food versus Egg Prices.

The article which we give in this issue by "Statistician" relative to the comparative increases in the prices of foodstuffs and those of eggs should help to remove a very erroneous idea which has undoubtedly been prevalent. We have met people who have frankly stated that an advanced cost of food was fatal to profitable poultry-keeping, evidently forgetful of the fact that the increased returns were greater. Had the rates for 1909 been maintained at the level of that year the effect would have led to a check in production of eggs and poultry. That, however, has not been the case. The fact is evident that poultry-keepers have had for the last two years a larger margin than ever, which,

together with a rapid advance in consumption, explains their prosperity, and, be it noted, import prices do not probably represent the increased values of home supplies. The other day we were informed by a leading salesman that so great has been the inquiry for native chickens that the prices have increased this year from 2½d. to 5d. per bird over those paid in 1911. Our advice to poultry-keepers of all grades is: Full steam ahead.

### The Qualifications of Inspectors.

We have heard something as to the importance of insisting upon poultry instructors being thoroughly qualified for their work, with which everyone will agree. A correspondent of an Irish newspaper, however, raises another question—namely, the qualifications of inspectors sent by the Department of Agriculture to examine the classes conducted by the first-named. With the special case here referred to we are not concerned, and have no means of knowing the actual facts. It, however, may be used as an illustration of the danger of allocating a man to inspect whose knowledge of the subject taught is superficial, and who, therefore, is useless for his work. His praise or his blame may be equally unjust.

Surely the first consideration should be ability to inspect. Much of this is a farce. Some time ago we heard of an inspector sent from London to a poultry class. He arrived when the lecture was over, and after asking a few questions returned. Whether he made a report or not we do not know. Probably the expenses of that journey would be more than the instructor was paid in two or three weeks. To send a man who knows nothing to inspect the work of one who is an expert is insulting.

### Poultry Headquarters.

One of the most notable events we have had to record of late in connection with poultry is the proposal to establish permanent headquarters for the American Poultry Association. At the meetings recently held an offer was submitted from the Chicago Association of Commerce to grant a site and building valued at £20,000, provided that the headquarters were permanently located in the city. The Nashville (Tennessee) authorities also offered a site, upon which they undertook to erect a suitable building and grant sufficient land near the city for an experiment and demonstration farm, provided it were fixed there. These munificent offers would indicate that the way is made clear for carrying out the proposal, if inter-State rivalries can allow one place to be chosen. The possibilities of such an institution are immense, as it might become a great museum and centre of light and leading for the whole world.



## THE POULTRY FANCY FORTY YEARS AGO—III.

By PROFESSOR JAMES LONG.

ONE of the most frequent exhibitors of the days which are past was Mr. J. K. Fowler, of Aylesbury, whose acquaintance I made at one of the earlier Birmingham Shows and with whom I was on close terms for a great number of years. Mr. Fowler was always stylishly dressed, with a brilliant flower in the buttonhole of his black frock-coat, and probably owing to a long public life he displayed an easy, frank, and polished manner which carried him very far. Almost at the close of his long career Mr. Fowler and myself were appointed by the Royal Agricultural Society to act as judges of the Silos of England and Wales, and we travelled together for some weeks, having a most instructive and interesting time, spending one day with the late Sir John Astley at his Lincolnshire country seat, where we were extremely amused by his eccentric personality, and another at a Roman Catholic College at Durham at Christmas time, where we dined on Christmas fare with the monks. Mr. Fowler was a genial companion, full of information and well acquainted with the architecture of our cathedrals, of which we visited a number in all parts of the country. He was the most famous exhibitor of ducks and geese of his time together with a great variety of poultry. His waterfowls were invariably at the top in competitions, and probably no man ever acquired such a great reputation for birds of this class.

One of the best known judges and exhibitors during a period of nearly thirty years was Mr. Matthew Leno, a Bedfordshire farmer who for a long time was unapproached as a breeder of Sebright Bantams, which became famous in his hands. Mr. Leno was a quiet, unostentatious man of gentle disposition and high character and almost unknown to a large number of exhibitors until he was appointed a judge, when his services were in great demand throughout the country. If not so experienced and so astute a man in relation to all varieties as Mr. Teebay or Mr. Hutton, he brought those faculties to bear upon his work which enabled him to arrive at an honest and just decision and to give great satisfaction to exhibitors at large.

At this time Captain Heaton was approaching the zenith of his fame. The Captain was chief agent to the Earl of Ellesmere, and lived near Manchester, where he bred Game fowls and high-class pigeons for himself, and Shire horses, Suffolk sheep, and white Yorkshire pigs for the Earl of Ellesmere with the greatest possible

success. He was in all probability the most skilful breeder of stock in England, and never hesitated to pay a high price for breeding stock either for himself or his employer. Captain Heaton was a crack rifle shot and had taken one of the highest places in the Wimbledon competitions. He was a modest, handsome man, keeping his own personality in the background and yet achieving the highest success which ever distinguished a poultry fancier. I believe he was the first man to pay £100 for a game cock, and his expenditure was fully warranted. No man did more in the manufacture of the Modern Game than Captain Heaton, whose name was invariably associated with success in whatever line of life he walked.

Almost equally successful in his way was Mr. W. F. Entwisle, who did more in the production of the Bantam than any man who ever lived. Commencing with the Game Bantam, which he brought to a state of very high perfection, he undertook the transformation of other varieties, the first of which was the Brahma. I sent him one of the smallest Brahma hens I had ever seen to help him in his work of reducing the Brahma to the Bantam size. His work was spread over a number of varieties, and when he prematurely died he left behind him a large troop of friends, and a considerable number of Bantam fowls which formed the basis of the majority of the varieties of to-day.

Mr. James Dixon, of Bradford, was another of the older judges closely associated with Messrs. Teebay and Hewitt. Mr. Dixon continued judging until he had reached a great age. He was a gentleman in all respects, quiet, unassuming, yet confident in his awards, taking the greatest care to make every one correctly. His services were in great demand by Committees of all the leading shows, and I suppose no man more thoroughly enjoyed the work of judging than himself. He was even-tempered, amiable, kind in giving his advice, and absolutely impartial in his judgments.

Among the more famous poultrymen of those days were Fred Wragg, for a long period of time in charge of the Brahmas owned by Lady Gwydyr at Ipswich; John Martin, a famous breeder of Dorkings, who was foreman to Mrs. Allsopp; John Douglas, the famous breeder in charge of the aviaries of the Duke of Newcastle at Clumber, where I once paid him a visit; and Elijah Smith, who had a long career as an exhibitor of Cochins in particular for



Messrs. Whitworth and Crabtree, of Manchester, and subsequently for Mr. Woodgate, of Pembury. These famous professionals I frequently met. Mr. Wragg was a small man with a curious personality, slightly deaf and speaking with a loud voice. I had the pleasure of inspecting Lady Gwydyr's yards on two or three occasions under Fred's guidance and was much pleased with the great care and skill which he exhibited in the production of his birds, which took the highest rank for many years, commencing about 1868—if I remember rightly. John Douglas was a tall, stout man, who was regarded as one of the highest authorities on Game and Dorkings in England. He was quiet, phlegmatic, unpretentious, and a thoroughly

I am speaking of men of ordinary calibre but who, in spite of the minor positions they held in this life, were great personalities in their own way. At this time the well-known breeder of fighting cocks, Billie Gilliver, who was not an exhibitor of poultry in the ordinary sense of the word, was still on the scene, although his exploits had been chiefly conducted before my time. I met him on a few occasions and took stock of him chiefly on account of his connection with cock-fighters of an earlier day, but was not impressed with his ability. In these days there were no Plymouth Rocks—for I introduced the first some years later, having obtained them from Philander Williams, then most famous in America—no Wyandottes, no



**Forty Fireless Brooders in one field on Mr. T. W. Toovey's Farm at King's Langley.**

(See page 79)

[Copyright.]

honest John. John Martin, who was living a few years ago when I met him at the Birmingham Cattle Show, was then a very old man but full of vitality and humour as always. In earlier days he was practically the leader of the chief poultrymen of the time, always full of fun and mischief, but he brought the Dorking to great perfection and, I believe, was the means of introducing the Rose-combed Dark variety, with which he achieved unparalleled success. Elijah Smith, also a little man, was equally mischievous and full of jocular, but no man was better able to turn out a White Cochin in full plumage and almost as white as snow than this indefatigable little fancier.

Orpingtons, and none of the Continental varieties which have now become famous, if we except the Houdan, the Flèche, and the Crevecœur. Spanish, which have now almost departed, were a special and popular variety. Minorcas had not reached the position they now occupy, Indian Game were but little known, Langshans were not yet introduced, while the Leghorns were entirely new. The breed known as the Dominique was occasionally exhibited while the Indian Runner Duck was still in the clouds. The most important classes in our great shows were the Cochins and Brahmas, followed by the Dorkings and Game. The Anconas were confined to the West of



England, almost to Cornwall; indeed, the varieties in those days were much restricted as compared with their position to-day. The most important fancy, Water Fowls, were the Black East Indian Duck, the Mandarin, and the Carolina. Occasionally the Whistling Duck, the Muscovy, the Chilian Pintail, and the Ruddy Sheldrake were found in the variety classes, and sometimes the tiny Call Ducks and the Spotted Bill. Turkeys were practically confined to the Norfolk and the Cambridge, the Bronze American not being introduced until later on, when they soon became the rage.

I have referred to Captain Heaton's achievements with Game Fowl. Immediately preceding the very rapid increase in the length of the leg and the change in the type of Modern Game, Mr. Sam Matthew, of Stowmarket, was the leading prize-taker. Mr. Matthew was a large farmer who, as I can testify—for I once went down to spend a little time with him—kept his birds under quite natural conditions. In the corner of each field was a poultry house with a Game Cock and a number of hens, all birds of the highest type approximating to the form which has now become so popular. Mr. Matthew's birds were hard in feather, tightly built with short wings carried close to the side, short, slightly drooping tails, the sickles being fine and whipped, necks long, feathers slack, the head snaky,

and colour, whether in the Black Reds, the Brown Reds, or the Duck-wings, being all that could be desired. Mr. Matthew was highly respected. He never took any leading part in poultry movements but was a frequent and invariably successful exhibitor, his birds being shown on all occasions in perfectly natural condition.

These remarks apply equally to Mr. Kellaway, so long a leading prize-winner with Black Hamburgs. Mr. Kellaway, although much my senior, was in a double sense an old friend, and I frequently paid him a visit in the Isle of Wight, where he bred his birds, which were the apple of his eye and to which he was in consequence much devoted. At that time I was a frequent exhibitor of the same variety, and although it had been Mr. Kellaway's practice to win most of the prizes for Black Hamburgs at the Ryde Exhibition, I met him in friendly contest and managed to beat him, which, he jocularly suggested, was owing to my impudence in presuming to go into his locality. All these good men have passed away, and among them were jewels of uprightness. Let us believe that they are succeeded by equally righteous judges and exhibitors, for nothing is more essential to the success of the hobby of poultry breeding—for a hobby it really is—than a keen sense of fairness on the part of all who are connected with its administration.

## PRICES OF GRAIN AND OF EGGS.

### HOW POULTRY-KEEPERS ARE AFFECTED.

Increases in Egg Values greater than those of Feed.

By "Statistician."

THAT the poultry industry in this country has been built up on cheap food is evident. That any marked increase in the cost of grain and meal, without a corresponding advance in the returns obtained, would seriously affect producers and check development is equally true. In view, therefore, of the rise of prices of feeding stuffs which took place in 1909, more especially in wheat, which has not, however, been maintained in the last two years, it may be well to consider the question comparatively.

My reason for doing so is due to the fact that statements have been made as to farmers and others who are said to be reducing their flocks of poultry, alleging that the enhancement of food cost makes the business no longer profitable. The undoubted great and increasing shortage

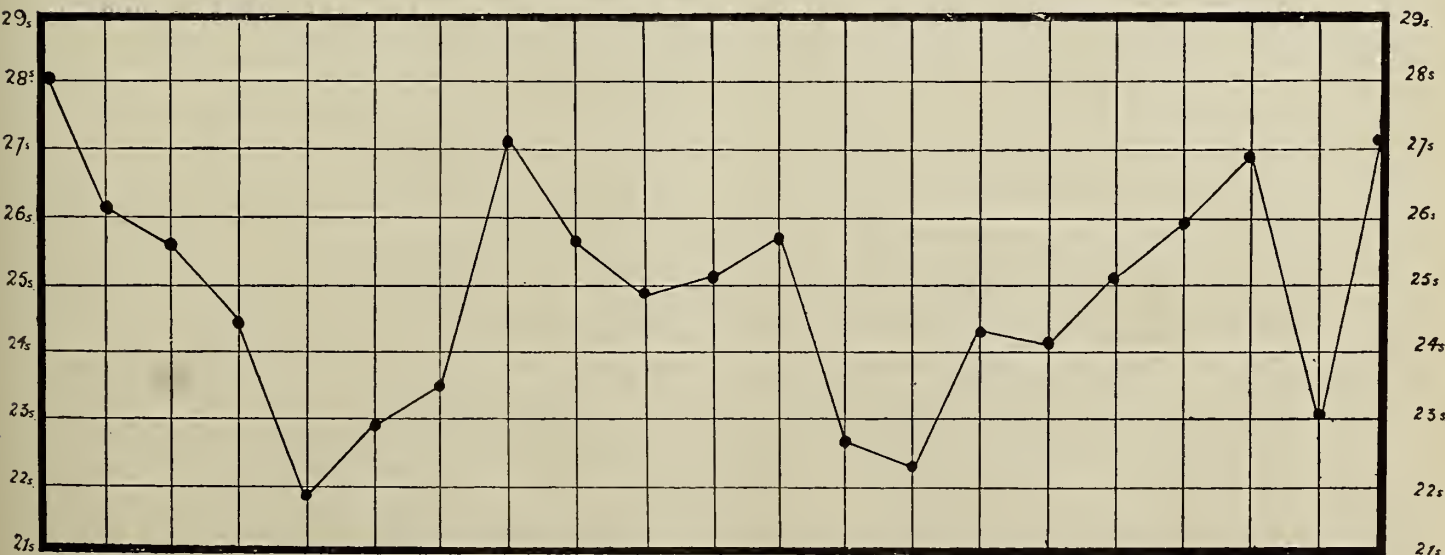
of egg supplies is being put down to this cause. How far such a feeling is general it is impossible to learn. It is possible, and probable, that some people are affected in this way. Many are pessimistic by nature. In looking at one side of the cash book they are apt to forget the other, whereas both ought to be regarded together. How little the following figures, taken from the Agricultural Statistics published by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, justify the statements referred to will be apparent to every reader.

As it is difficult to obtain average values of eggs produced in the United Kingdom, due to the variations which prevail, the import figures are adopted as a basis for these calculations. These are taken from table 140 (page 335)





Variations in Prices of Wheat (per Imperial Quarter) 1891 to 1911. [Copyright.]



Variations in Prices of Barley (per Imperial Quarter) 1891 to 1911. [Copyright.]

of the statistics just referred to. The prices of wheat, barley and oats are for British corn, and taken from table 50 (page 219). Considering that this is a free trade country, comparisons between these are perfectly fair.

In the diagram which I have prepared on the basis of the published figures, covering a period of twenty-one years, 1891 to 1911, are shown the variations of average prices for each year of wheat, barley, and oats in imperial quarters, and of eggs in great hundreds, from which it is evident that eggs, which fell somewhat from 1891 to 1898, the minimum year of this period, have made a steady and almost continuous advance thence to 1911, and in the last-named year were higher than ever before. On the other hand, wheat was at the highest points in 1891 and 1909 respectively and at the lowest in 1895, but has varied remarkably, with a steady rise from 1899 to 1909. Barley and oats have been much more even. In each the lowest point was reached in 1895, whereas barley was at its maximum in 1891 and oats in 1902.

These points are emphasised in the tables given below:—

Average Prices of British Grain and Imported Eggs,  
1891—1911.

Year.	WHEAT. per Imp. Qr.	BARLEY per Imp. Qr.	OATS per Imp. Qr.	EGGS. per gt. hd.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1891	37 0	28 2	20 0	6 7
1892	30 3	26 2	19 10	6 10
1893	26 4	25 7	18 9	7 0
1894	22 10	24 6	17 1	6 5
1895	23 1	21 11	14 6	6 4
1896	26 2	22 11	14 9	6 4
1897	30 2	23 6	16 11	6 3
1898	34 0	27 2	18 5	6 2
1899	25 8	25 7	17 0	6 3
1900	26 11	24 11	17 7	6 5
1901	26 9	25 2	18 5	6 5
1902	28 1	25 8	20 2	6 8
1903	26 9	22 8	17 2	6 8
1904	28 4	22 4	16 4	6 3
1905	29 8	24 4	17 4	7 3
1906	28 3	24 2	18 4	7 6
1907	30 7	25 1	18 10	7 8
1908	32 0	25 10	17 10	7 11
1909	36 11	26 10	18 11	8 2
1910	31 8	23 1	17 4	7 11
1911	31 8	27 3	18 10	8 4
average for whole period.	30 8	26 2	18 8	7 3½

It will be seen, therefore, that with wheat out of the twenty-one years, six, including 1908, 1909, 1910, and 1911, were above the mean average; that with barley were four such years, inclusive of 1909 and 1911; that with oats were six such years, including 1909 and 1911; and that with eggs were six such years, from 1906 to 1911. Comparing the first and last years of the period, wheat was 5s. 4d. per quarter less in 1911 than in 1891; barley 11d. per quarter less; and oats 1s. 2d. per quarter less; whilst eggs were 1s. 9d. per great hundred higher.

To base calculations upon individual years is seldom a true test. I have, therefore, taken two quinquennial periods to compare with the last five years, 1907-11—namely 1891-5 and 1901-5, which will show the trend both of feed and of eggs.

#### 1891-5 compared with 1907-11.

	1891-5 Average Price per Imp. Qr.	1907-11 Average Price per Imp. Qr.	Increases	
	s. d.	s. d.	Price s. d.	per cent
Wheat	27 11	32 7	4 8	16·71
Barley	25 3	25 7	0 4	1·32
Oats	16 11	18 4	1 5	8·37
	Per gt. hd.	Per gt. hd.		
Eggs	6 8	8 0	1 4	20·0

#### 1901-5 as compared with 1907-11.

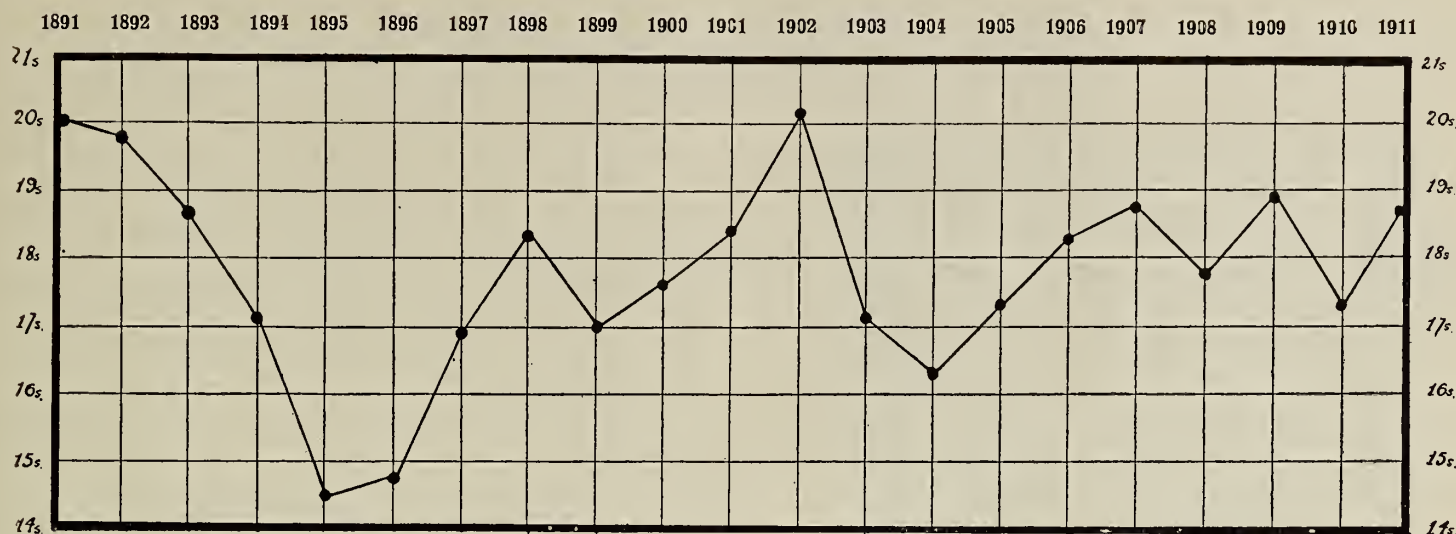
	Per Imp. Qr.	Per Imp. Qr.		
			Price	per cent
Wheat	27 11	32 7	4 8	16·71
Barley	24 0	25 7	1 7	6·6
Oats	17 11	18 4	0 5	2·32
	Per gt. hd.	Per gt. hd.		
Eggs	6 9	8 0	1 3	18·52

Taking the three forms of grain together, the average advance in the five years 1907-11 over 1891-5 was equal to 2s. per imperial quarter, or 8·57 per cent; and over 1901-5 was 2s. 1d. per imperial quarter, or 8·93 per cent; whereas the increases in prices of eggs were 20 and 18·52 per cent respectively.

Some part of the increase in egg values is due to improved quality as a result of adoption of better methods of marketing. It is evident, therefore, that where home producers have followed suit they have reaped a much greater advantage.

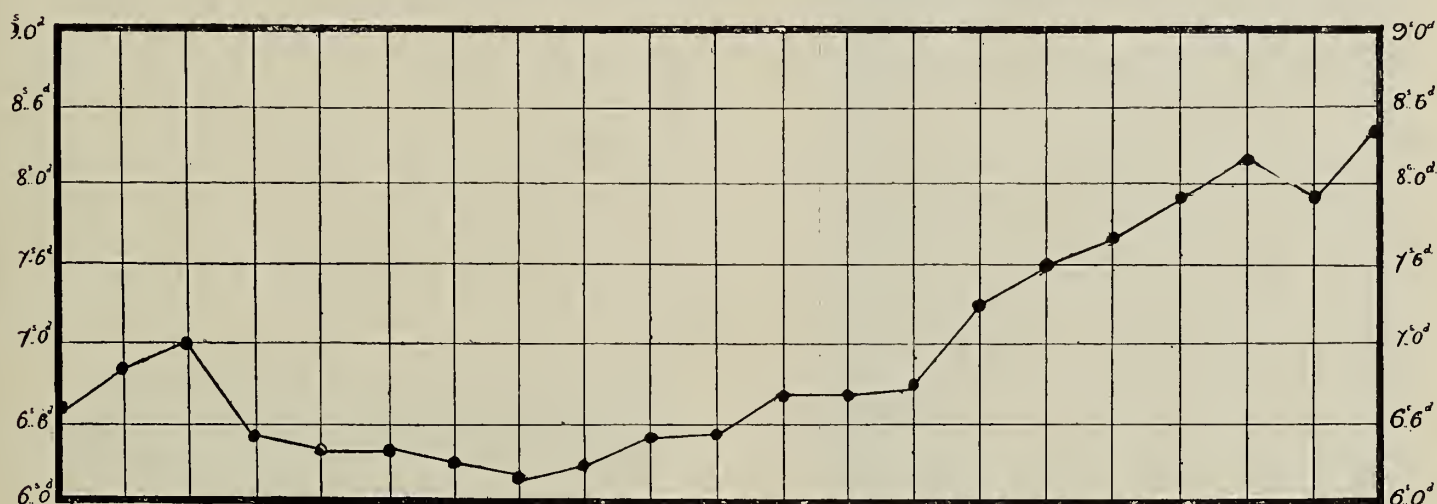
The figures here given show that there is no need for pessimism in relation to the poultry industry, in that the advance in prices of the product is much greater than that of food consumed; that the statements recorded above as to relative cost have no justification, and that the balance is altogether in favour of the poultry-keeper.





Variations in Prices of Oats (per Imperial Quarter) 1891 to 1911.

[Copyright.]



Variations in Prices of Eggs (per Great Hundred) 1891 to 1911.

[Copyright.]

## Warwickshire.

At the Warwickshire County Agricultural Show for 1912, held at Alcester, it was gratifying to note that the poultry produce exhibits were of capital quality and well displayed, but it is a pity that the executive do not come up to date and give Classes for Poussins, Broilers, and fat stock; and prizes of such value as to encourage popular competition. For the sixth successive year Captain Peirson-Webber was invited to give demonstrations and explanations of the remarkable profits that have of late been realised by club farms in Warwickshire, associated with the National Service Poultry Club, which exists to prove by definite results the true value of poultry to all sorts and conditions of people. As an instance, at Billesley Manor, a flock of 200 hens showed a clear profit of £110 in nine months, after deducting wages, 10% for depreciation of plant, 4% on invested capital, and the corn bill, while the produce was only sold at Birmingham market rates, and no fancy prices were allowed.

## The Poultry Tick.

Mr. D. F. Laurie has been reading a most interesting paper on this creature before the Microscopical Society of South Australia, in which were recorded some interesting experiments for destroying Poultry Ticks, which proved to be remarkably resistant to certain preparations. In the first of these it would be found that weaker solutions than those named below in brackets were non-effective: Izal (10 per cent.), Carbolic Acid (10), Phenytas (10), Jeyes' Fluid (10), Tysol (10), Kerosene in Soap Suds (5), Caustic Potash ( $2\frac{1}{2}$ ), Caustic Soda (5), Petrol (pure), Formalin and Methyl Alcohol (pure), and Xylol (pure); and in the second: Carbolic Acid (5 per cent.), Cyllin (5), Phenytas (5), Cresol Soap (5), Jeyes' Fluid (10), Tysol (10), Kerosene in Soap Suds (10), Formalin ( $2\frac{1}{2}$ ), Caustic Potash (10), Caustic Soda (10), Methyl Alcohol (pure), Absolute Alcohol (pure), and Formalin and Methyl Alcohol (pure). It is evident that the weaker solutions of some preparations are useless for this purpose.

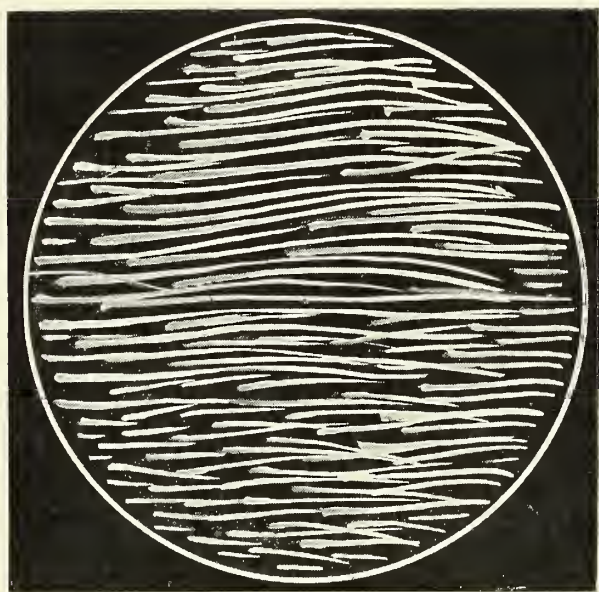
## THE INVISIBLE CHICKEN.

### NINTH ARTICLE. FEATHERS FROM HAIRS.

*Written and Illustrated by JAMES SCOTT.*



WHEN we regard hairs, feathers, scales, and nails, and learn that they are all practically modifications of one and the same substance, we may feel inclined to doubt the correctness of the observation. Yet, really, all these coverings have arisen through the slow, steady adaptation of Nature to serve specific purposes. The hairs and nails of bipeds and quadrupeds; the feathers



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**Fig. 1.—Slightly magnified hairs of Chick just ready to hatch. (See Fig. 2 in explanation.)**

of birds; and the scales of reptiles, have been gradually modelled from primitive foundations, and even now may be undergoing further evolution to meet emergencies unforeseen by us.

While we cannot understand *how* Nature works in these interesting directions, we *can* see the *way* in which such transformations occur.

There are genera of tortoises having, respectively, angular plates, rough fibrous knobs, bristly bunches, and separated stumpy spines over their shells. Let us suppose that in ages past a tortoise, like animals, was entirely covered with hair or bristles. When the necessity for underground hibernation became imperative, bristles would be a hindrance to the continuance of the habit. Nature would, therefore, group the bristles in so many sets, liberate a sweat to stick them together meantime, and so provide the creature with a suitable protection. In time this style might be determined as an hereditary feature.

The next stage—along a deviating line of successors—would be that the separate groups of bristles would get solidified by amalgamation of the hitherto softened fibres during the first years of the new-born creatures. Little by little the groups of fibres would subside, the bottom layers hardening and widening more than the top ones. Probably intermediate animals would have plates formed of reduced bristle-bases on which stood groups of almost intact bristles. Following generations would have two layers of the bristle-bases; later ones would be provided with three, four, and so on.

In this way hairs or bristles would become converted into plates; which would be angular for the same reason that a lot of soft balls pressed sideways together would alter in form.

Anyone who will inspect detached tortoise-shell plates through a lens will see that the central patch of each is speckled, as though it was made up of the sunken tops of densely packed hairs or bristles, embedded in a hard matrix. The surrounding ridges indicate the successive changes from bristles to plates or scales.

I have instanced the tortoise because it is so extremely different, superficially, from our poultry; yet it is actually one of their relatives! Examine, side by side, the scaly legs of a cock or hen and those of a tortoise.

In the case of creeping animals it is easily understood that groups of hairs would be pushed back as the body glided over the ground and between plants; afterwards amalgamating into flat scales. The oozing outwards of body juices would be the initial cause for separating the turned-back hairs into regular groups, and thence into scales. In this way leg scales may have been instituted. Sufficient suitable substance from exudations would be absorbed by the hairs, and the modified remainder of the fluid would pass out regularly and so divide the stuck-together hairs into nearly equal sized scales-design, bear it in mind, is a common feature in Nature; right away from raindrops, hailstones, snowflakes, ice crystals, up to leaves, flowers, and fruit. Nature is very *symmetrical* in its methods.

It would be equally easy for thin plates to split up lengthways, and the parallel divisions to be again divided, thereby producing branched feather-like objects.

Our own nails are composed of the same substance that makes the skin and hair. Through a lens you can see that these nails are finely

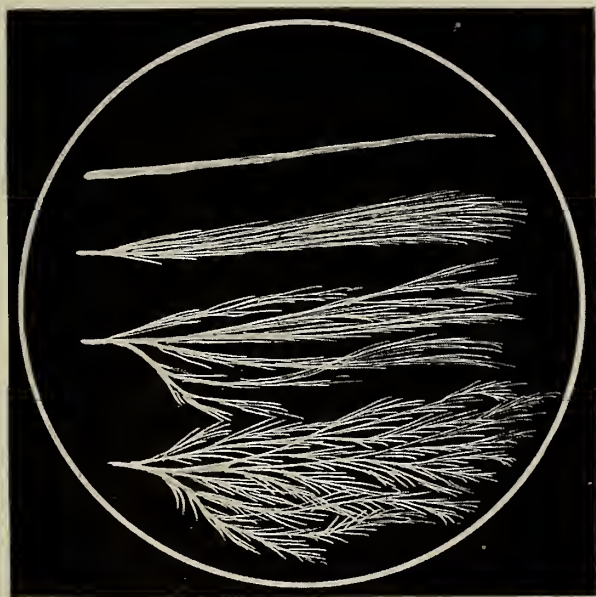


split lengthways. The materials forming them *flow* through a number of grooves near the quick and then stick together and harden. Imagine the lines separated, and you get something like a tuft of hair. Contrarily, imagine a tuft of hairs compressed together into a flat plate and you obtain a nail, as it were; or if they are bunched together they become a claw. Several hairs united by an adhesive—like a paintbrush dipped in glue—become a spine.

As I have before stated, an important fact that helps to prove the connection spoken of, is that the corpuscles, or freely moving cells, of the blood of birds are oval in shape just as are those in the blood of reptiles. In other animals they are round or globular.

Evolution has undoubtedly been responsible for many incredible changes. The forerunners of our elephants—the mammoths—were densely *hairy*.

Coming now to a consideration of the feathers as we find them on an unborn chicken and a newly hatched one, we can make some very interesting observations. When the skin of the chicken at twenty days old (and thereabouts) is examined we see that it is covered with cotton-like threads, placed over the body with fair regularity. Very few people would suspect that these were downy feathers; yet such is the



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**Fig. 2—Each of the hairs of the chick ready to be hatched is like the top-most thread. This is compound, and unrolls gradually until it resembles the bottom tuft or down feathers. (Slightly magnified.)**

case. Some of them are depicted in Fig. 1. The tender flesh is plainly exposed between them; yet when the chicken is hatched these apparently single filaments are replaced by downy feathers and the skin is concealed.

I take one of the threads from a twenty-day chicken, lay it in a drop of water on a glass

slide, and roll it two and fro. Gradually it opens out until there is a many branched tuft,



[Copyright.]

**Fig. 3.—Magnified pin-hole view of base of one of the hairs, opened out. (See Figs. 1 and 2.)**

instead of the original single slender length. This is the portion which will resolve itself into downy feathers when the chicken springs into a new world. The flesh end is indeed a stump encircled by finely branched feathers not unlike a shuttlecock.

By carefully magnifying the parts we learn that at the point of its insertion in the body the thread—or hair, as I prefer to call it—really is single. A reference to Fig. 3 will explain this fact. Yet not far up from the skin it divides off into a number of branches, which are again split up. No trace of these is visible under normal conditions, while the bird is in the egg; but when it hatches out these hairs are shaken out and unrolled into feathers.

It is customary to find in the embryo chicken, features and organs in the primitive form whence they have been improved as time went on. I have already shown in previous articles how an arm and hand have become a wing. In like manner we can be certain that as we find hairs in the embryo, the ancestors of the chicken must have possessed hairs or their counterparts.

#### A Poultry Text Book.

At the meeting of the American Poultry Association a resolution, submitted by Professor A. A. Brigham, was adopted, which provides for a grant of five hundred dollars to be expended in the preparation and publication of an elementary work on poultry for use in public schools.



## SEASONAL METHODS IN POULTRY-KEEPING.

### SUMMERING AND WINTERING.

By EDWARD BROWN, F.I.S.

IF there is to be that great increase of poultry production in association with general farming which we all desire, and upon which we must largely depend in order to meet the food requirements of our great population, an essential factor is that methods shall be adopted in conformity with the special conditions there prevailing; otherwise we cannot hope to see agriculturists take up this branch of live stock in accordance with their opportunities. The small poultry-keeper who is strictly restricted in the land under his control must perforce keep his birds more or less on the same ground year after year, although it is now more or less understood that even he must recognise that a balance between animal and plant life is all important. He may, however, do something to minimise the effect of larger numbers of fowls on a given area by intensification of cultivation, in this manner utilising the land to the fullest extent. There are limits to the possibilities in that direction. Upon such question it is not my present purpose to enter. It is enough to say that great progress in knowledge and experience has marked recent years, and I believe much more will be accomplished in the near future, even though the limitations are considerable.

Such methods are not those which will appeal to the larger farmer, nor are they at all in conformity with his other operations, which will always occupy the premier position. For men of this class who desire to attempt greater things and who employ special assistance, the colony system is to be commended, for the poultry are concentrated on a given area for the time being and wholly removed annually on to fresh ground. In this way a regular rotation is adopted, by means of which the fertility of the soil may be added to and the total volume of production increased. Such a plan has also the advantage of concentration, thus facilitating the labour and general control, always an important consideration. That does not, however, concern us at the present moment.

One of the benefits arising from the adoption of larger ideas in America, so far as the poultry industry is concerned, is that systems are adopted and tested which would not otherwise be tried. It may not be all gain. The attempt to attain a huge volume of production merely by re-duplication of items without changing the system has not as yet proved successful, in spite of the recent outbreak of ultra-intensive theories. Instead we must approach the question from

above, not from below. Given a general farm, conducted upon right lines, the problem to be solved is, how can poultry-keeping be added thereto without interference with what is already being done, in conformity therewith, as an added crop on an economic basis? Much loss has arisen and many difficulties have supervened by reason of the fact that the vast majority of those responsible for promotion of the poultry industry in this and other countries have approached the subject rather from the position of smaller poultry-keepers than from that of the larger farmer. Such limitation of vision needs to be changed. To that extent the experience in America, more especially Canada, where the farming idea appears to be more potent than in the United States, will be invaluable. Here we have as yet scarcely touched the greater occupiers, though signs are that these are being influenced. So far as my personal observations across the Atlantic have gone, intensive methods bulk most largely. A change seems to be imminent in that direction.

In some cases, however, and these appear to be increasing, the plan adopted is to distribute houses and fowls over the land during the spring and summer and early autumn, thus giving them the manifold advantages of unrestricted open ground. As the winter season approaches both are brought in nearer to the homestead, so that they are more easily reached and less exposed than if left out so wide afield. With us this method is very seldom met with. The reasons which have led to the adoption of the plan named are mainly climatic. Throughout vast areas of the countries already mentioned snow is very abundant and cold very intense for several months, during which time the risks of loss in isolated houses would be very great and the difficulty of reaching the birds considerable. When the land is covered with snow to the depth of several feet and the thermometer registers well below zero, it is evident that special precautions must be taken with all classes of live stock. It is in this way we find an explanation for methods the need for which we, with our milder conditions, have never realised. It is very rare, and then usually for a brief period, that we find ourselves snow-bound, or suffer from a low temperature. Therefore, what is probably a necessity in America is not at all requisite in this country, so far as many sections are concerned.

There are, however, other considerations



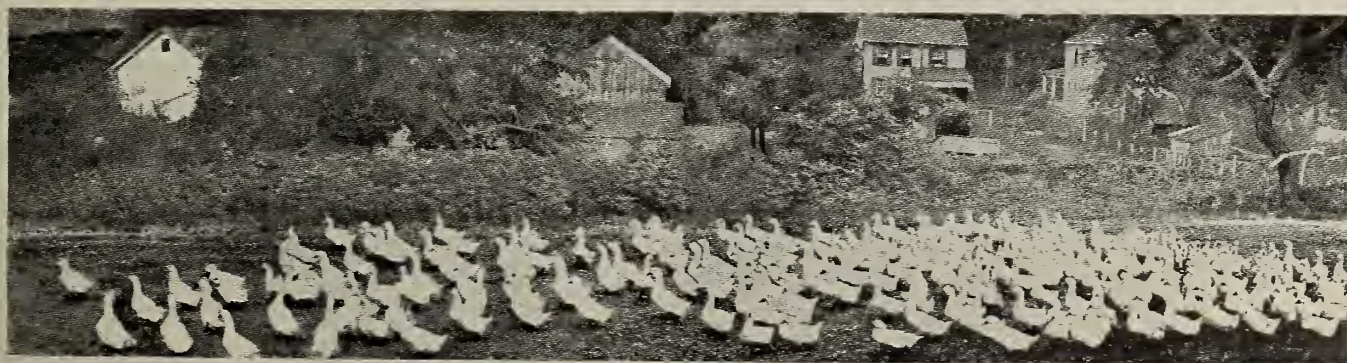
which deserve recognition. Although throughout the British Isles climatically we are favoured in respect to our winter conditions, in many of the more remote and sparsely populated areas, if any great development of poultry production takes place, something like the system indicated must be adopted. It is not snow and frost which has to be feared to the same extent as in America, save in the higher reaches, rather rain and wind, making the getting about troublesome. And be it noted that in the cattle and sheep areas the plan is general of bringing the stock in when winter approaches, equally from the fact that food is less abundant, for the sake of greater protection, and to simplify the work of looking after them. If, therefore, there should be increase of poultry in these parts of the country along the lines advocated, the method already stated must be applied to them, otherwise "the game would not be worth the candle." A further reason is that, even if the hens were productive, should days elapse before the eggs were gathered, much loss would rise. A prime necessity is that fowls kept for the sake of their eggs must be where these can be secured as soon after they are laid as possible.

Apart from remote parts of the country it is worthy of consideration whether the system of providing winter quarters for the fowls would not be profitable to the general farmer living where climatic conditions are all in his favour. By so doing he could increase his stock to a considerable extent and avoid what is always troublesome during unfavourable weather—namely, having to traverse long distances to feed the birds and collect the eggs, more especially at a season when the latter are few. It is well to remember that at this period the birds require more food than at any other season, for then it appears the gap between the amount of food consumed and returns is widest. Further, it may fairly be anticipated that hens would be more likely to lay if afforded the protection of the homestead and kept more thickly together

than when isolated and widely scattered, especially in the more exposed districts. I am not an advocate of the system of keeping fowls entirely within the houses, as some seem to think desirable, but it is well to be able to do so if it appear essential, as may occasionally be the case.

That in this country the farmer finds the most economical method is to scatter his birds over the land can scarcely be questioned. So far as larger occupations are concerned, that is preferable to even the colony system, whilst for small holders the latter is better in every way as it gives the extent of intensification necessary to his success. I am convinced that the cost of feeding must always be greater when birds are colonised than where the distribution is greater and wider—that is, during the more favourable months of the year. When fowls are scattered over the field the supply of natural food is as a rule more abundant than they can consume. As a consequence the cost of production is decreased, though it is perfectly true that the average number of eggs laid will probably fall below what will be the case if in smaller flocks and kept nearer home. The saving of food and economy of labour is much the greater. When so distributed under good conditions it will only be necessary to once a day make a round of the flocks for the purpose of feeding and gathering the eggs. In fact, at some periods even that one feed is scarcely required. One advantage of food hoppers would be that the fowls can help themselves when they wish to do so. The main difficulty is wastage due to rats, &c. All this is a great gain in respect to labour. The exception is during a very dry, hot summer, for then the supply of natural food is greatly reduced.

The main objection adduced to this extensive method of poultry-keeping is due to losses by the depredations of foxes. That such is a serious hindrance in many districts cannot be denied. If it involves a second long round to



A Splendid Flock of Pekin Ducks on an American Farm.

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shut up the birds at night, and another to let them out in the morning, then it is small wonder so many farmers prefer to keep down their poultry to small dimensions and have them within a short distance from the homestead. I do not propose to discuss this question, as it has been dealt with so fully by others, but that a solution must be found in one way or another is undeniable. The way must be in accord with the interests of poultry-keepers of all grades and which will make for the profitable development of this industry throughout the country.

Under the system here advocated, as the winter season approaches and the supplies of natural food diminish, the birds would be brought into what will be their winter quarters. What provision will be made in this way will vary in accordance with the means and ideas of individuals. It does not seem to me at all necessary that this should involve any great expenditure. We know that where dairy cattle are kept expensive buildings are erected for their accommodation during the winter months, and it evidently pays to do that. The time may be reached when a modification will be found equally profitable with fowls. That may be left for further determination. In this case the buildings should be part of the permanent equipment. The difficulty arises from the fact that if such methods were adopted the home poultry houses would be unoccupied for more than half the twelve months, which involves a considerable loss of earning power. The stage has not been reached when hens will allow themselves to be driven like cows to the feeding grounds in the morning and back again at night. If they were thus amenable it would alter our outlook. Therefore, the plan commended is to move the houses and their inmates, thus using the former under both conditions.

If a long-range house is already available this may be used, but I do not regard it as the better plan. The main danger is lest the ground outside should be tainted. A building of this kind cannot be moved, whereas when the smaller houses are brought in they may be put wherever seems best suited to the purpose and is most convenient. Runs are not required. Three or four quarter-acre lots may be fenced in to be used for selected breeding-pens, but beyond that the erection of wire netting would be a needless expense so far as the fowls are concerned. Where well-kept gardens are near at hand, then it is often essential to protect these by netting, the cost of which, however, should be debited to them and not to the poultry. A five acre field will accommodate up to five hundred hens, as these will be thereon for at most four months, when they will return to the open. As

already indicated, the advantage of such a system is that the houses and birds are easy of access. To go round ten or twenty of such, grouped together, on a rough, boisterous winter day is very much easier than having to trudge over a dozen fields. And, if a fresh site is selected as often as may be for the winter work, there is very little risk of disease as a result of tainted earth. In fact, the manure added thereto will prove of great value. Care should be taken to utilise that produced inside the houses.

There can be no question that the larger forms of scratching-shed houses are preferable to the small erections so commonly sold, but they are not so easily moved. If, in order to do this, they have to be taken to pieces and re-erected, then the labour increases accordingly. The advantages of having sufficient space for scratching are so great that it is worth much to secure this. Where the building used for accommodation in winter is permanent there should be no difficulty. It is in those which have to be moved that this arises. What we want is an intermediate form between the ordinary portable house and the large scratching-shed, giving something like three feet of floor space for every inmate. Such, if made with a very strong frame and fitted with wheels, either fixed or removable, should be capable of standing the strain of transference from one place to another. It is the damage done during the process of removal which has checked the use of these large houses by farmers. Where those used are smaller something can be done by littering out a large permanent shed and using that as a scratching place for all the fowls, feeding there whether "rain or shine," as the Americans say. It will be found that on unfavourable days the birds will remain there practically all the time.

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#### Progressive Women.

America again leads the way. Mrs. Cora Taylor has been elected President of the Alabama State Branch of the American Poultry Association, and, as a consequence, becomes the first lady member of the executive committee. Further, Mrs. Florence Forbes, of New Decatur, Alabama, is the first lady judge to be licensed by the association.

#### Cold Storage Eggs.

The rapid decomposition of eggs preserved by means of cold has been the supreme disadvantage of that system. It is recorded that experiments in Germany have shown that this can be retarded if the eggs are first removed to a little higher temperature than the cool chambers and there dried. It would seem that this point is worthy of attention.



## PERSONAL LETTERS FROM AN OLD FANCIER.\*

## VIII.—TO A SHOW REPORTER.

DEAR MR. CENSOR—You see I have given you a new name, under which even your best girl would not recognise you, but it is a true designation for one who is undertaking the responsibility of reporting poultry shows, and is not in any sense opprobrious. If you never receive a worse one than that there will be no reason for complaint. Pseudonyms are often useful. I read your first report with interest. It was promising, even if a little crude, not bad as a beginning, but forgive me if I say you have much to learn. One thing I liked—namely, the cautious reserve which characterised it. You were like the old man who said: "Ye don't ketch me letting folks know how much sense I ain't got." You made several mistakes, but then all reporters do that—when they fail absolutely to agree with the judge's decisions. As I acted as adjudicator you must allow me that gibe. I have read somewhere that "old age when it can no longer set a bad example gives good advice," and I am going to cull from my experience a little.

The late Lord Beaconsfield once said, with the vitriolic cynicism for which he was famous, that "critics are those who had failed in literature and art." Whether that is true or not in the branches referred to I am unable to say. Such is not the case in poultry show reporting, which does not pay sufficiently well even the failures. Certainly it is not true with you, as your connection with the

pursuit is too recent for either success or failure to have been achieved. In fact, that is the danger of it all. I have heard older judges speak bitterly of mere boys being sent by leading journals to criticise their awards whose knowledge of breeds and breeding was conspicuous by its absence. At one time I inclined to the same feeling, but it does not trouble me now. The fact is, in these days there is seldom any criticism at all in show reports, the majority of which are so abbreviated that they have little meaning. Exhibitions are too big and too frequent to permit more than a sort of running

comment here and there. It is like trying to get a gallon of fluid into a wine-glass. The danger is that only the exhibits of prominent fanciers are noticed, which is unfair to the others.

Yet I have often learnt much even from inexperienced reporters, who represent to some extent the general public and look at things from a different plane. Perhaps the best reporter in my time was a man who had kept only one breed himself, but had studied



**Four Hundred Hens in one House.**

Large flocks of laying hens are all the rage in America, some of them numbering as many as five or six hundred. The plan is being tried in this country, though it is as yet too early to say with what result.

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all, and he intuitively knew what to look for. The breeder is not always the best reporter. We want fresh ideas. Some time ago I heard of a man criticising a piece of music, and when it was pointed out that he had never composed a tune, replied "I never laid an egg; but am a better judge of an omelette than a hen." So the reporter may be able to take views denied to judges. He is there, or should be, to protect the public, to represent absent exhibitors, and to keep the judge up to the mark. The last named of these functions is the most important, and the most difficult. Some judges are very sensitive. They appear to think that everyone who fails to agree with their decisions is a personal enemy. We want no Popes of that kind. Infallibility is unknown in the poultry world.

\* The previous letters have been:—

- No. I. —"To a Young Judge," March, 1912.
- No. II. —"To a Show Secretary," April, 1912.
- No. III. —"To a Lady Poultry Farmer," May, 1912.
- No. IV. —"To a Disappointed Exhibitor," June, 1912.
- No. V. —"To a Country Poultry Instructor," July, 1912.
- No. VI. —"To a Specialist Poultry Breeder," September, 1912.
- No. VII. —"To a Poultry-phobe Agriculturalist," October, 1912.

The next will be addressed "To a Master of Foxhounds," and appear in our December issue.—EDITOR.



Some years ago I had a sharp lesson at the hands of a comparatively young reporter, which experience did me much good. At a leading show I had judged a class of fowls then becoming prominent, and did what appeared to be my best. Afterwards a young chap came to me whom I had never seen before, and he told me that he was reporting for a certain weekly journal, but as he felt in a difficulty about the class referred to, perhaps I would go over it with him. That day, as it turned out, my conceit was greater than my knowledge. However, as I have always made it a practice to justify my awards if asked to do so, we went over the exhibits. He listened to all I had to say. Then in a few courteous words he pointed out one or two things for my consideration, and I saw that he was right. He let me down easily in his report, for which I was very thankful. It taught me that "out of the mouths of babes and sucklings"—you know the rest.

In show reporting, as in every other branch of human life, there are ideals towards which you should aim. The money you earn is something and cannot be ignored. A man must live. That, however, is only one aspect of the case. As representing the great Fourth Estate, you have a duty to perform. When your notes appear in print they are no longer your own, but those of the paper, winged with an influence few can realise. Read all over the country by multitudes who know neither the judge nor the reporter, these are accepted as gospel. Therefore in what you say the personalities of judge or exhibitor should not count for anything. My advice is, ignore both, and look only at the birds. How far that is possible in your case remains to be proved. You can, at least, give an unbiassed opinion, which is all one can expect. A man cannot help being a fool, he may be born so, but he can be honest, and honesty is what we have to look for in judges and reporters alike. Given that, you need fear no one. Mistakes may be made. "To err is human." But let these be errors of judgment, not wilful mis-statements. I have read somewhere a recommendation which may be suggested to you, "give your mind to what it does understand, and, day by day, the mysteries shall be revealed to you till all is clear."

All this may appear up in the clouds, but it is not so. The fact is, a reporter is a sort of court of second appeal, even though he cannot alter decisions already made. Be honest yourself, and give the judge credit for the same merit until you find such is not the case. Try and put yourself in his place. Remember that he may, by having a right to handle birds you do not possess, have seen what is unrevealed to you. The business of the judge is to discover and appraise merits. That of a reporter is to discern faults. Both have their place, but sometimes one bulks so largely as to obscure the other. I have read that "a man who does not care for merit cannot himself have any," which is true all round and in every sphere of life. There are some people who can see nothing but the shadows. You know those who always tell the

worst of their neighbours, and seem to have a penchant for discerning only their faults. Such a man is unfitted for the position of judge or reporter. To him virtues are unrevealed. They scarcely exist.

If she be not so to me

What care I how fair she be?

appears to be the burden of their song.

Naturally a reporter has to learn his business, and in the gaining of his knowledge other people have to suffer. This is minimised to some extent by the present-day system, already referred to, of reporting shows, much of which could be compiled from the list of awards without the writer seeing a single bird. In fact, I have often wondered why editors do not save their money by adopting this course, leaving grumblers to express themselves through the correspondence columns. Such would not be a good thing for the judges, who realise that there is always the possibility of exposure should they make a bad mistake. As things are, the best way for a young reporter is to follow the judge, say something about the winners, and leave the rest until he be able to form his own opinions. By so doing he will get a view otherwise denied to him. That is the path of safety. Too often both judges and reporters favour the known bird. If you praise any let it be the new aspirant.

One of the best tributes to good reporting I ever knew was in connection with an early northern show. Who the reporter was I never learnt, but that he knew his business was evident. Instead of wasting his space on inanities about mediocre specimens, in one class he concentrated largely on a single specimen, a cockerel bred by a humble exhibitor, which was of exceptional quality, describing it in detail. When this was published in the then leading Fancy journal it was read by a prominent exhibitor, who recognised that such was the bird he wanted for mating, if the description were true. Within a few hours he was with the exhibitor, from whom he bought the bird at a high figure, and in his yards it did wonders. You may suggest that such opportunities are infrequent. Agreed. Yet that is the reporting which tells.

Reporters see much of the shady side of the Fancy. They have many temptations leading to deviation from the straight line. Men who would have regarded them with indifference under ordinary conditions will truckle to them, whisper their blandishments, offer them drinks, and so on. To resist is not always as easy as it appears. Did you ever read that side-splitting book "David Harem"? You will remember that Aunt Polly was so shocked at what she saw in a New York theatre that when going to bed that night she undressed herself in the dark. It is your business to find out about all the tricks and trickeries going on around about you in order that you may be able to walk unscathed and deal justly. The fact of anyone trying to bribe you should be a danger signal to be on the lookout. I have seen a good many young fellows come to ruin because they did not stand firmly to their



ideals and sacrificed their independence by the acceptance of favours. Whilst fair to all, ever courteous to those with whom you come in contact, a little wholesome fear of you will do no harm.

There can be little question that many of the reports published are practically valueless, yet, at the same time, they are equal to the money paid for them. When we take into account the time expended in going to and from a show, that in going round the classes, and then the weary transcribing of notes, often under very trying conditions, the remuneration is meagre in the extreme, and as a consequence would not pay the majority of men who have no other use to which they can put it.

Perhaps worst of all is the log-rolling that goes on. You butter me and I will butter you. If we believed all that is said, the exhibits of certain cliques are always perfect. When they win, it is only just; when they lose, the judge is senile or a rogue. Unfortunately, such men or their satellites frequently are appointed as judges, and when that is the case it is a family party of a very objectionable kind. You will come up against this system pretty quick. They will endeavour to capture you, for that gives a sort of respectability to the business. Whenever I see at a big show a reporter sitting amidst a lot of these professionals then there is evidence that he has been or is being trapped. The



**Discarded Philo Houses on Mr. T. W. Toovey's farm at King's Langley.**

These are now used for breeding-pens. (See page 79).

*[Copyright.]*

"A man that has nothing else to eat in Lent must stomach stale eggs" is often advanced as an excuse for doing what is not altogether straight. Editors and publishers seem to think that 20s. is a lot of money to pay for a report. Here we have an explanation for the exhibitor-reporter, which is about the worst form of all, although some of the men I know are remarkably fair in what they say, and do not unduly praise their own birds. Such cannot always be said, however, and I could give you many instances in point. Were it that the exhibitor-reporter signed his name his criticisms could be appraised at their true value, but under the shield of anonymity digs at rivals often appear. Editors have to be on their guard against these, and serious mis-statements are generally cut out. The slighter stabs may take an equal effect.

day will come when you must succumb or fight. The latter is the right thing to do, but it means a struggle in which you may be beaten, as have others before you. If these men are advertisers, then their influence is considerable. Too often is it true that the literary portions of a newspaper are subservient to the advertisement columns. Better sink with honour than rise with dishonour.

Some of the American poultry journals only refer in reports to the exhibits of their advertisers. Although that is not journalism or desirable, yet it is perfectly straightforward, and there is no deception, as the arrangement is frankly stated. With us it is different, or supposed to be, and I hope it will ever continue. The reporter should have nothing to do with the exhibitors, but the exhibits, and his business is to give a fair and unbiassed record of



what he sees and state what he thinks. Fortunately, the law of libel with us is pretty stiff. Otherwise the log-rolling fraternity would have things to a greater extent in their own hands than is now the case.

Reporting is often difficult. How is it possible to see birds properly when the avenues are crowded with people jostling against you, maybe interrupting your work? That perhaps explains or excuses some reports. Still, you must make the best of it. I have always thought that *bonâ-fide* reporters, not exhibitors earning part of their railway fares, should be admitted at the same time as the judges, upon suitable conditions and restrictions, so that they may see the exhibits under the same circumstances. Changes take place very rapidly. A bird may be better a few hours after the awards are made than at the actual time, in that it has become accustomed to its surroundings—or worse. Think of the effect upon you of a few hours in the atmosphere of some winter show-rooms, and from that be just, if not generous, to the adjudicator. There is one thing I have ever advocated—namely, that if ordinary exhibitors are excluded from a show-room, all should be treated alike, and that a man shall not be permitted to cover himself with a reporter's cloak and thus be favoured. His rôle as exhibitor must ever stand pre-eminent.

Oh, those disappointed exhibitors! They will be the plague of your life if you once give way to them. Anyone who cannot take his gruel is not a man, and the less you have to do with such a one the better. Sometimes they roar like a lion with the toothache. I have known even judges afraid of these bullies, who think they have only to shout loud enough to frighten everybody. Reporters are fair game for them. That is why they often win when they have no right to do so. Unfortunately, they have a lot of influence, and can frequently coerce committees, who know no better, into appointing their own nominees. Not only must you defend your own position, but make it clear that you will deal justly though the heavens fall.

Your hardest task will be to expose fakers and trimmers. Judges often fail to discover such trickeries. It is a difficult position for the reporter, should he find a case of this kind. Let me tell you what happened some time ago. A bird was exhibited to which the judge gave first prize, and rightly, if it were honestly shown. That it was trimmed became evident later, but in a way very difficult to prove. A well-known reporter was urged by rival exhibitors to make public the fact, as the judge refused to alter his award or the committee to take action, not that anyone really doubted the fact of trimming, but because the evidence was scarcely strong enough. Some of the competing exhibitors were asked to enter a protest, but refused. The reporter replied, "See here, you fellows, I am not going to pull your chestnuts out of the fire. If half a dozen of you will give me a personal guarantee against a libel action, should one be taken, I will ask my editor

to publish an exposé, not otherwise." Needless to say, the guarantee was not forthcoming. Knight errantry is picturesque but not always safe. When you get a good case, do not hesitate, only be sure of your proofs. I have known more than one action lost because the witnesses did not repeat the same story before judge and jury. There are plenty of people who will be glad to make you a cat's-paw. Whenever you strike, let it be because you know, not that someone else said so. I like to see fakers exposed, and there are plenty of them, but, as a rule, they are too clever to be caught. Usually it is the novice who is trapped, not the expert.

It is true that there is not much opportunity for literary grace in show reports, but, oh! dear me, how barren the majority are of decent expression. An old friend of mine, long since gone over to the majority, once tried to write a report without using the words "good" or "nice." It was mighty hard work, and needed abundant space to tell his story. These are relative terms and generally mean nothing. Yet they form the staple of many reports. See if you cannot do better than that.

Remember also that promptitude means much. Belated reports are of little value. It is hard work that pays. Business first and pleasure after must be your motto. Time, tide, and the post-office wait for no man. Be cheerful and bright. "A contented mind is a continual feast." Some men get the hump if they are not invited to the committee luncheon. Your place is not there. Keep your independency as against the assaults of committees and exhibitors, is the advice of

Yours sagely,

ENOS MALPAS.

P.S.—Be sure of your dates. I know one man who turned up to report a show a week after it was held. He tried to keep it dark, but truth will out.

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### Co-operation in California.

The Southern California Poultry Breeders' Association is financing a movement which may mean much to the poultry industry of the southern end of the State. It is not exactly a co-operative marketing movement, though it has to do with securing cheaper supplies for poultrymen and fairer treatment in the market. A store-room has been secured at 640, S. Main Street, Los Angeles, which is being stocked with some of the supplies necessary to poultrymen. Space and coops are rented to those who may wish to display pure-bred stock, or, if the stock is left in charge of the association, it will be sold on commission. Where space is rented the entire retail price goes to the producer. Retailing of market eggs has been taken up and in addition it is expected to handle case lots to retailers.



## WHO'S WHO IN THE POULTRY WORLD.

## MR. W. J. GOLDING.

In the year 1890, at the age of twelve, Mr. Golding entered the Fancy, and assisted his eldest brother, who was the secretary, with the Haywards Heath



MR. W. J. GOLDING.

Show. This was, however, the last event of the Old Haywards Heath fixture, and it was not until some eight years afterwards that Mr. Golding started the now existing Haywards Heath Show and became its honorary secretary. In 1897, prior to the show, Mr. Golding started keeping Buff Orpingtons, and managed to secure a third prize at Reigate. In the following year at the Dairy Show he was elected on the committee of the Buff Orpington Club and made assistant secretary, a post which he held until 1903, when he became secretary. In the same year he was elected to the committee of the Poultry Club, of which he has been a vice-president for the last six years. With Orpingtons he has won very many prizes, including a first and the World's Champion Challenge Trophy at the Crystal Palace. This bird was afterwards sold for £60 to an American Fancier. Mr. Golding started with some White Orpingtons and this season produced a well-known winner at one of the classic shows. He has acted as specialist judge for Orpingtons at nearly all the principal shows since 1905.

Mr. Golding holds a large number of positions in the poultry world, among them being honorary

secretary and treasurer of the Buff Orpington Club; vice-president of the Poultry Club; vice-president of the Grand International Show; member of the committee of the Black Orpington Club and Haywards Heath Show; while he is on the council of the Tunbridge Wells and South Eastern Agricultural Society.

## M. KARL HAAS.

M. Karl Haas was born in 1867 at Ansback in Central Franconia. He has occupied a leading position in forestry for twenty years. During the whole of this time he has worked steadily at the improvement of poultry raising, partly by importing



MR. W. J. HURST.

Who has just been appointed Editor of 'Feathered Life.'



and rearing prominent utility breeds, and partly by scientific experiments and by founding poultry breeding associations. Several of these, especially in Bavaria, have elected him an honorary member. In 1908 the Emperor's gold medal was bestowed upon him, and in 1910 he won the Agricultural



**M. KARL HAAS.**

Jubilee medal offered by H.R.H. Prince Regent Tintpold.

In 1909 he applied for the post for directorship of the Royal Bavarian District Poultry Breeding Institute at Erlangen, then in course of formation, and he was appointed to this position by the Royal State Government in preference to numerous applicants. This institute is to-day, after only three years of existence, considered by the authorities to be one of the best in the world.

#### **La Bresse Club, (England).**

The Annual Meeting was held at the Dairy Show on October 9th in the Shepherd's room, kindly lent by the Show authorities. There were present Miss Lee, Miss Theobald, Miss Tammadge, Messrs J. Lee, C. H. Eden, G. H. Caple and C. E. J. Walkey (in the chair). The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. J. Lee was elected Vice-President, Lady Wilson continuing to hold the office of President.

### **JEWS AND POULTRY.**

During the Hebrew festivals live poultry always brings more money than at any other time. The farmer often is not aware of this fact.

The year 5673 is from September 12th, 1912, to October 1st, 1913. On September 21st comes the Day of Atonement. The best market days are from the 16th to the 19th, and all good stock is wanted, but more especially chickens and roosters.

The Feast of Tabernacles comes on September 26th and 27th. Stock should arrive in London on the 23rd and 24th of the month, and ducks and fat geese are the poultry most in demand. The geese must be fat or they will not sell to any advantage.

The last of four holidays that come together is the Feast of Law on October 3rd and 4th. All kinds of prime poultry are used, and should arrive on September 30th or October 1st.

After this holiday considerable time elapses until the next, which is Purim, on February 21st, 1913. From February 17th to 19th are the best market days. Good fowls and first-class hen turkeys are the kind most wanted. Two months elapse before the next holiday, when three come in succession and end the year. First is the Passover on April 22nd and 23rd, for which stock should arrive in the market not later than the 19th. Turkeys, heavy fowls, fat ducks and fat geese are the only kinds in demand.

The Last Passover comes on April 28th and 29th the market days for which are the 23rd and 25th. All kinds of poultry, prime quality, can be used.

Finally, on June 11th and 12th, comes the Feast of Weeks. Good fowls are especially in demand and should arrive from June 5th to 9th. This holiday is the last of the year.

The Jewish people are very particular about their festival eating, and all the poultry must be the very best.—*Agricultural Gazette*.

#### **Petits Poussins.**

A considerable demand exists among the wealthy classes during April, May, and June for what are termed petits poussins, but, unfortunately, up to the present poulterers have had to rely almost entirely upon foreign birds, being unable to obtain sufficient supplies at home. Probably 95 per cent. of the birds disposed of on the London and other first-class English markets are imported from abroad, the chief sources of supply being France, and to a lesser degree Denmark and Belgium. Yet the trade is an extremely profitable one, and provided the conditions are favourable it involves no particular difficulties. Petits poussins are small chickens, weighing from 6oz. to 8oz. each, and they closely resemble the "broiler" of America, save that in the latter case the birds are rather heavier, rarely weighing less than 12oz.—*Bazaar, Exchange, and Mart*.



## THE HOUSING AND YARDING OF LAYING HENS.

D. S. THOMPSON.

Poultry Expert, Hawkesbury Agricultural College.  
Department of Agriculture, N.S.W.



THE question of the housing and yarding of laying hens is one of the most important in regard to profit and loss in poultry farming. Many of the most up-to-date English and American poultrymen are following our methods in regard to housing laying hens. The open front house was first advocated by this College, and is now generally recommended, even in the colder climates of England and America. The new house was simply a compromise between two extremes—allowing all poultry to roost out, and making them all to roost in.

The people who made them roost in went to the very extreme. I can well recollect the stuffy, filthy fowl-houses in my native country, Scotland, where

The modern fowl-house is the happy medium; fowls require housing for protection from the cold winds and rains, but they require plenty of fresh air, and normal temperatures while roosting.

The old method, in addition to being unprofitable in regard to egg-production, encourages disease; and many of our country farmers know the effect of fowl cholera, a disease we heard so much about in the neighbouring state of Victoria some little time ago, which was then looked upon as something hitherto unknown. The new method to keep down disease is the efficient yarding and housing of poultry. This consists, firstly, of divisional pens; and secondly, of up-to-date housing. If birds are well yarded, well housed, and well fed, coupled with



**The Egg-Laying Competition pens at the Hawkesbury Agricultural College.**

[Copyright.]

the atmosphere would be almost temperate inside, while the glass would be showing many degrees of frost outside. The houses would be substantially built, but without a suspicion of ventilation anywhere, except from the doorway; and the house would be full of nesting boxes, covered with droppings, discharging ammonia at a great rate. The old ideas must have been imported into this country (like so many other things), for I have seen many similar fowl-houses here.

the right breed, and bred at the right time, a large profit can be made from egg-production.

The advantages from divisional pens are varied. They keep down disease. Overcrowding of life of any kind is detrimental, and fowls will segregate even more than other animals. If you have 1,000 head of fowls on 1,000 acres, at night-time you will find them on a very small portion of the 1,000 acres and even in the daytime they would cover very little of the space outside of the homestead area.



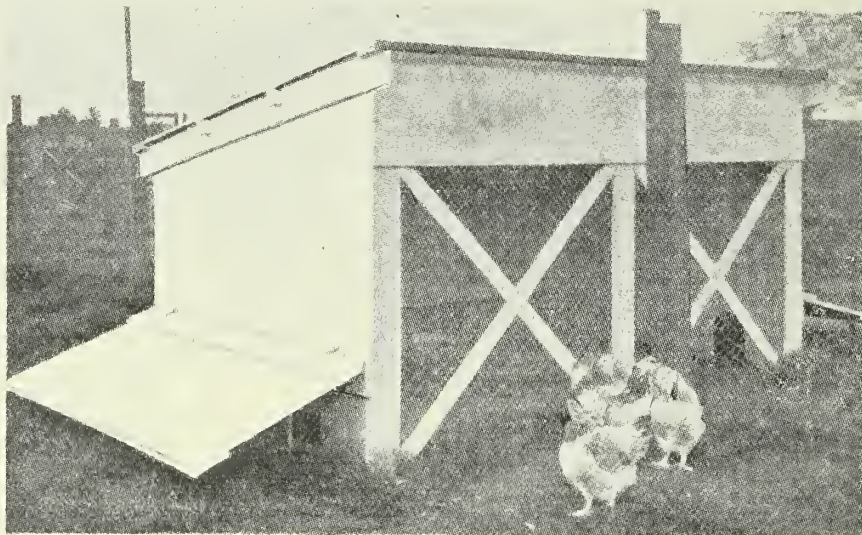
Another advantage is in regard to feeding; the hens get more evenly fed, and they are not so quarrelsome. In regard to egg-collecting, although it entails a little more work to collect the eggs from a number of divisional pens, at least they can be easily located. Then again, the hens of different ages can be bunched together in different runs; and at a given age, say thirty-two months, according to moulting, they should be sent off to the market.

In starting a poultry farm the first consideration should be the site, *i.e.*, the ground on which the poultry yards and houses are to be placed. This is a very important consideration, because it has a lot to do with the general health of the fowls, and a mistake once made cannot be easily remedied. The situation should be chosen with a long gradual slope, which should dip towards the morning sun. This ensures good drainage and dry conditions, not free from rains, but from fogs and dampness, which are very prejudicial to bird life. No class of animal is more subject to catarrh than the fowl, and dampness generally is the cause of pulmonary complaints.

Light sandy soil is preferable to heavy clay, and where clay or heavy soils abound, scratching corners of sand should be provided in which to place any litter available, and in which the grains can be thrown to encourage exercise. The rest of the yard should be well grassed, couch grass acting as the very best surface fodder. Shade trees are necessary and many varieties of fruit-trees could be grown in the divisional pens of poultry pens. Many prominent fruit-growers are finding out that there is more money in hen-fruit than there is in tree-fruit, while the crops of fruit are also enhanced where the poultry are run in the orchard. Fruit-trees will also make as good shade trees as the ornamental trees, with the additional advantage of being profit-bearing.

All trees or shrubs, of whatever kind, existing in poultry yards should be well pruned from the ground, in order to admit of plenty of sunlight. "Shade! shade!" is reiterated by most writers in regard to poultry, but there can be far too much shade, to the disadvantage of the health of the fowls. Wherever there is constant low shade in a poultry yard, there will be dampness, and a segregation there of a large number of poultry in the yard. It only requires one case of enteritis to frequent this locality to contaminate every bird in that yard; and what is more, every bird brought there for years afterwards. The germs live and multiply under shady, damp conditions, whilst pure sunlight is a splendid germicide.

The size of the yard should depend on its grass surface productiveness, but a yard with 20ft. frontage, running 60ft. back, would be a good standard for ten hens. The fences should be of 6ft. wire netting on strong posts, the netting of stout gauge and 2-inch mesh. This should be well stretched on the posts, and threaded top and bottom with fencing-wire.



Front view of one of the Egg-Laying Competition Houses.

[Copyright

There is really no cast-iron rule in regard to the building of a house, and it is amusing to see the vast number of different types, &c., recommended in English and American books.

The building should be as simple as possible, with a maximum amount of sunshine, and a maximum amount of fresh air. "Fresh air houses" is the cry everywhere, and we were the first to advocate them. The house should be placed facing the north or north-east in most parts of this State, the idea being to face the morning sun, while the back is placed to the weather.

Notwithstanding the general recommendation of most authorities in England and America, we plump for the natural soil floor. "Do not use earthen floors," says one writer, "because they will always be damp." Where open-front houses are in use, with high front roofs to admit the full sunshine, there can be no damp floors. The earthen floor is the best. It is the softest for the fowl's feet, which are fairly tender. It is much easier to clean; and if part is gradually carried away with the frequent cleaning, so much the better, because it mixes with the manure, which is a very necessary condition before applying it to the land. The floor can be easily and cheaply renewed, and at the same time freed of any germs which may be lurking there. The house should be kept clean and free from vermin, and an earthen floor will help to do this better than wooden or cement floors.

To keep the house free from vermin is certainly

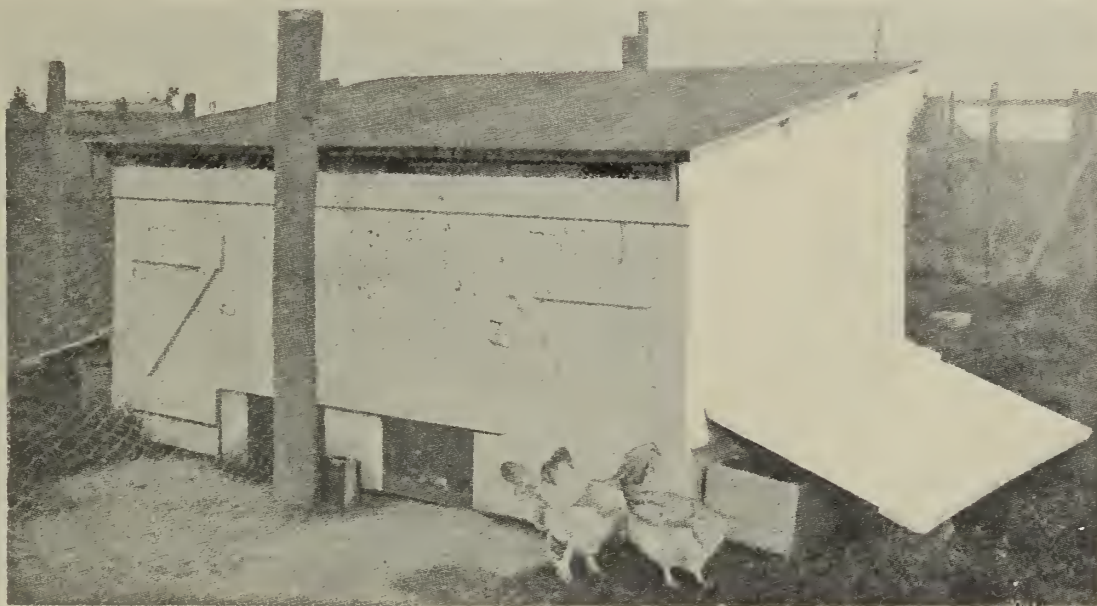


a task, but if the right methods are used nothing is more simple. The first and most important part is not to forget that the sun is the cheapest insecticide as well as germicide. Most poultry-books and publications say that the houses must be cleaned out almost daily; that you will have to whitewash, spray, and disinfect frequently; that you will have to use kerosene, wood-preserving oils, and all sorts of things to keep the house clean from vermin and keep down disease. It should not be forgotten that all this costs money and labour, whereas the good old sun will do it much better and more cheaply.

If the houses are placed with the open fronts facing the morning sun, the sun will shine right to the back wall of the house, where there should be no nest-boxes nor lumber of any kind, only the bare roost, which should be swung from the roof with iron rods or iron wire. The nest-boxes should

is tobacco. It is easily crushed up to put in the nest.

The nest should be roomy; 20 inches x 16 inches is not too large, and the boxes should have no bottoms. They should be placed on the natural surface, which should be spaded up and the soil made soft, in an oval shape, which should be well filled with cut grass to prevent the eggs from getting broken or soiled. This saves a vast amount of labour in washing eggs, and washing depreciates the value of eggs, as the natural bloom of the fresh clean egg is lost. This is a very important reason for grass runs, especially in the rain belt, where the bulk of the eggs are produced. Where there is no grass, the rains make the yards muddy, and it is an impossible feat for the hen to frequent the nest without soiling the eggs with her feet. This is a point which must be entirely overlooked by the advocates of "no grass" in the pens.



**Back view of the houses shown on previous page.**

*[Copyright.]*

be placed outside, with a wooden curtain covering them, and this curtain must be moveable, so that the nest-box ground may be exposed to the disinfecting rays of the sun at any time. This is the only part of a poultry run which will be continually shaded, and even this spot must be brought under the sun's influence occasionally. There is very little fear of disease breaking out here, as excrement is seldom found in or about the nest.

To keep down lice, which frequently infest this shady spot, a handful of waste tobacco should be put into the nest frequently, say once a month in the summer time. Waste tobacco is the whole leaf condemned. There is on the market what is called tobacco-dust, just like snuff. I do not know what it is composed of, but we have found it almost useless as an insecticide. By purchasing the condemned leaf whole you can be sure that it

The following is a description of the pens and houses in the Egg-laying Competition, which has run for nine years, and gives the points which are still maintained, together with the conditions which have been altered as improvements from practical experience:—At the beginning of the competition the yards were constructed with strong iron bark posts and 6 feet of 2-inch mesh wire netting, strained top and bottom with fencing-wire. This has been found suitable and lasting for the nine years, the posts and netting being just as good to-day as when put up.

The yards were made with 17 feet frontage and 87 feet depth, and as the grass has remained permanent on the surface right throughout the whole time, this can be taken as a fair standard for the accommodation of six laying hens.

At first the pens were bare of any shade. This



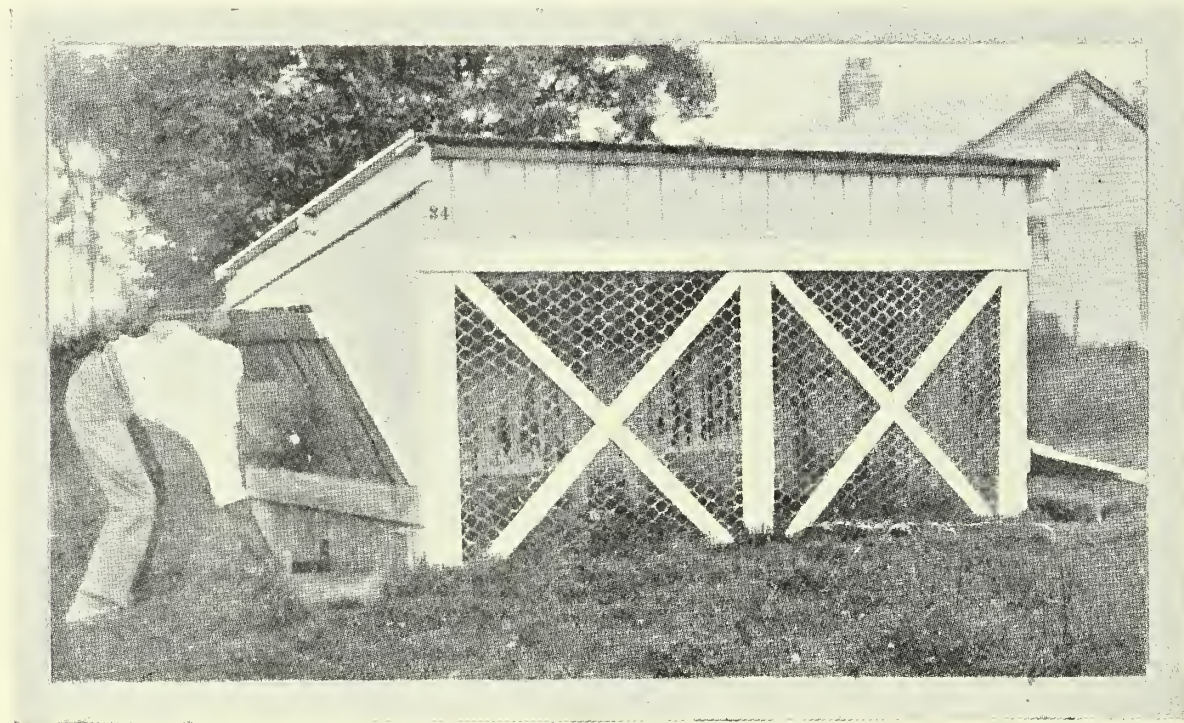
was, however, found to be imperative for the blazing-hot summer days, and temporary shades had to be erected. Shade trees were soon planted out, and have been found to answer the purpose. There is no necessity to have more than one tree in each pen, unless, as already recommended, they are fruit-trees, in which case, of course, two trees in each pen would be doubly profitable. The point to be guarded against is this:—In a small yard, with one portion used for a site for the house, and another for a scratching-yard, these two trees will help materially to kill the grass, which is wanted to be made permanent in the runs.

The houses were substantially built, open in front, and although later on shutters were made for the colder months, the verdict is still in favour of the entire open front. The buildings are 11 feet by

### The Value of Eggs as Food.

A correspondent of the *Aberdeen Daily Journal* recently contributed a letter to our esteemed contemporary which deserves a niche in the Temple of Humour, should such a Pantheon ever be erected. After buttering the Aberdonian University and calling attention to some remarks of Sir James Crichton-Browne on eggs, he goes on to say:

“Now, may I ask, should invalids eat eggs at all? Should any one eat eggs? This question may shock some people. It is, notwithstanding, a very reasonable question. Are eggs food? Did nature intend us to eat them? We know she did not intend anything of the sort. This point is emphatic. What then was Nature's



**Nest-box curtain in one piece. This arrangement entails unnecessary labour in lifting and has been discontinued.**

[Copyright.]

6 feet, and are  $5\frac{1}{2}$  feet high in front and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet high at the back. They are divided into two separate compartments. The roofing was rubberoid, but this we have found to be of only temporary duration and not at all economical, as the whole of the house has now to be re-covered. This time they will be covered with galvanized iron, which is, after all, the best, most efficient and lasting, and cheapest in the long run. Certain authorities condemn iron as too heating; but the scientific requirement is that no hen should frequent the house at any time during the day, except during severe rain, which, of course, does away with the over-heating bogey.

intention? It seems like an impertinence to ask such a question. Nature intended eggs to produce chickens. The white is food—food for the chicken. The yolk is a foetus.

“(1) Some people cannot and dare not eat them at all; (2) I ate three once and was very ill in consequence, and I never transgressed again in this way; (3) a Colonial, lacking all else, ate nine eggs, and was very ill. He dared not repeat the act. And yet Sir James regards them as suitable food for an invalid! Will any reader kindly say what they think of this egg question, and its results as a food?”



## TEN YEARS OF A LECTURER'S LIFE.

BY C. E. J. WALKEY.

Instructor in Poultry-Keeping to the Somerset County Council.



It is curious how good sometimes comes out of evil. Had I not, something over eleven years ago, been exceedingly badly injured in a shooting accident I should never have taken to lecturing in all probability and my recent honours would not have been won.

So badly hurt was I that all thought of going on with the hard work of poultry farming on the grand scale was out of the question, but the beginning of my career as a public speaker was largely a matter of fluke, for up to the year 1902, although for years I was a schoolmaster "down South" in South Africa, I had no idea of being able to hold an audience still less of making my living as a lecturer.

Looking back all these years it is surprising what advances have been made in our great industry. In 1902 there were only two or three people in the British Isles using trap-nests and breeding for "pedigree layers." Very few persons had any notion of the money to be made by combining science with practice in the culture of cocks and hens with the exception, of course, of a few really great breeders on the Fancy side who have always believed keenly in the necessity for breeding to a line for exhibition purposes.

The Utility Poultry Club and the National Poultry Organisation Society were in their infancy, comparatively speaking. When I joined the former in, I think, April, 1899, there were about 124 members against the present 1,500 odd and I had then no idea that I should ever be an official of the club. That I should become a member of its Committee and serve as long as I now have done seemed to me out of all likelihood.

In February of the year 1902, I went on a short lecturing tour to Dorset and was most kindly received by the then Secretary for Education, Mr. B. R. Swift.

At the first lecture I gave in my third centre I was very nearly posed by a questioner who asked "How many fowls on how much land would it take to keep my wife and family?" My reply at the moment was that I did not know but would tell him that day week. This answer was not altogether well received, the audience evidently thinking I was trying to shuffle out of a difficult position, but when I did fulfil my promise every one in the room but the unfortunate interrogator received my solution with acclamation, and from that day onwards I have gone forward with success. It is likely that the hero of this story will not see these lines so that I may tell what answer I gave. I made a special visit to the village resulting in my ascertaining (1) That my foe had never been married. (2) That he had, many years before, proposed to three girls of his acquaintance in three months and been refused by each. (3) That he had

then in a huff left his native village and gone off to London from which he had only returned a few weeks before my advent there. Not content with waiting for question time, however, I carried the war into the enemy's country by stopping suddenly in my speech and telling the audience these facts to the utter rout of the poor old chap who wanted to know so much.

In this same season I had another amusing scene some miles distant from the above centre. The local hobble-de-hoy of some eighteen summers elected one bright, moonlit but uncommonly cold night to come to my meeting with his tin whistle in his pocket intending, no doubt, to make things awkward for me. When the room had filled and the meeting commenced I was interrupted frequently by subdued bursts of laughter and a thin wheezy sound from the back benches—my friend playing pianissimo to his pals. Asked, by the local bigwig, to stop that those interested might hear what the lecturer had to say, the lad became cheeky and at last in desperation I had to take him out into the porch. It was freezing hard but that poor donkey, not to be beat, stayed until the end of my meeting and played most doleful tunes to himself all the time!

During the few months I was lecturing for the W—shire County Council I was asked to visit the local Manor House because "Our Mr. A—, he came to hear you last week but has gone to a concert to-day (evidently more amusing), wants you to tell him what fowls to keep to lay eggs. He has got a big poultry farm but no birds yet!" Of course immediately after breakfast the next morning I went to see "our Mr. A." and found a young man, about nineteen, very self assured, very sure that he knew more than myself, who received me with all the impressement due from one in his position to one in mine. After a little chat, the inspection of orchards, &c., where fowls were not, he asked if Silver Campines could lay eggs and if so where could any be had. I said they could, and with proper feeding and attention would lay lots of eggs, big enough for market purposes or the Manor table—the owner of which being two generations old, at most, needed of course everything of the best—and said that a breeder I knew near Gloucester had good utility Campines of sound stock. A few days afterwards I heard that the Manor had purchased 50 day-old chicks and had written expressing delight at the splendid way in which they had travelled, and there I thought was an end. Imagine my surprise to receive some ten weeks later the following letter and enclosure from my friend the breeder—still my good friend, I am thankful to say—"Dear W., For pity's sake do not send any more of your lecture people to me. I got the enclosed yesterday and should like to kick the



sender, Yours truly, X.Y.Z." The enclosure (a post card, no less) ran, "Dear Sir, When Mr. Walkey told me you had good Campines I sent to you because I thought you were a gentleman. I know now that you are not and shall be glad of the return of my money. The chicks certainly arrived in good condition. *I fed them on grit as Mr. Walkey advised and they are all dead.* Be good enough to return cost of them or I shall put the matter in the hands of my solicitor. Yours K." No money was sent and nothing happened except that I wrote my friend saying that he had on that same post card the finest testimonial ever received by a breeder since the days of Noah. How many flocks of Campines produce chicks which fed on nothing but grit will survive for full three months? Presumably the solicitor, if consulted, which I doubt, thought the same, for no letter came from him.

A couple of years previous to this I had myself been done brown. I was badly in need of pullets to keep up my egg contract supply and wrote to a soi-distant "breeder" in G—shire who at that time advertised largely in most poultry papers saying that he had some hundreds of first cross pullets "near laying" for 2/6 each. Foolishly enough I did not, as is wise, send deposit to a paper but forwarded a cheque for some six pounds direct. In about a week's time I heard from this man to say that he had been ill but was sending the birds that day and hoped they would give satisfaction. Only one-half the number paid for arrived, good pullets enough—with them there was nothing to grumble at, but get the rest I could not. At intervals of a week or ten days for over three months I received long, long letters always in the same strain. Either he or his manager was ill, latterly his wife also was like to die, but no more pullets came to hand. Eventually I went to see him. I found he was not at home, the woman who answered my knock saying would I please be very quiet as Mrs. X. was dying, told me he had gone into M—shire to see his manager. I thought this odd, and after a lot of palaver, got into the house and was received by the "dying" woman. If she was not floured I'll eat my oldest hat! Her tongue, ill though she was supposed to be, was strong and exceedingly sharp but I had come over 60 miles, had hours to wait at their small wayside station, had two miles to walk on a rainy day before I could get anything to eat, and was, truth to tell, in a baddish temper myself. I delivered this ultimatum: If the pullets, as good as the first lot, are not received within one week, or my money refunded, I shall leave no stone unturned to have all your advertisements stopped, and I leave you to guess whether or no that will be to your advantage! The next morning I had another long letter saying how sorry my beauty was not to be able to send the pullets or, owing to the expense of his wife's long illness, the money, but if I would give him time—and so on. I simply sent all the letters up to a certain London paper and, after a deal of bother, stopped the advertisements for a month. My money came back in full.

The moral of which story is to buy of no one of whose bonâ fides you are not sure except under the deposit system: fight very shy of those who advertise that they advertise largely: buy only from well-known people. I myself know dozens of cases where a certain man in London has behaved absolutely fraudently for many years past but his victims will not proceed in a court of law because they are afraid. Very foolish of them indeed. If they would but take action for their own and others sakes these frauds would come to an end. The man I have in mind is well known to have no poultry, to buy what he advertises as "prize strains" or "pedigree laying stock" alive in Leadenhall Market, anything does for "mugs," at about 1/6 each to sell at 5/-, 7/6, and 10/- apiece. There is money in it but the man is a rogue and ought to be shown up. I have been told on good authority that he daily receives more Postal Orders than any other man in Town. There is the record of a man who about 1850 made close upon twenty-thousand pounds by selling what he was pleased to call "pure vegetable pills!" They were vegetable in the main, yet he got ten years hard labour in the end. I very much hope this fraudulent poultry seller will get the same or a harder sentence ere many years pass, he fully deserves it.

In January, 1903, I came down to the County of Somerset, where also from time to time amusing things occur, but for the main part during the last nine and a half years my work has been very much of the same kind plus a good deal of judging live and dead table poultry and eggs, enlivened by occasionally taking oak carving, honey, butter, needlework, uncommonly ill-executed "paintings" and other oddments as well as birds.

In the autumn of 1905, I think, I spent a week at Plymouth judging appliances and eggs and lecturing at the great Industrial Exhibition there. No such show of dead poultry has ever been seen in this country, I believe. The chickens were simply magnificent, as is vouched for by the fact that a great dealer who bespoke all the winners sent down peds to hold 24 birds each (dead) yet we in no case got more than eighteen into any crate! The late Mr. Percy Percival judged the dead poultry, and the crowd during the time he was at work was so tremendous that the two biggest commissionaires and I stood with locked hands behind Mr. Percival's back, holding on also to the rail outside the staging of the exhibits, for nearly two hours or he would not have been able to proceed with the judging at all. Very tired we were, but that was nothing to my having to lecture upon the diseases of poultry to about 150 people, every one of whom knew as much of the subject as I did, and the Chairman a great deal more, while all the row of that great multitude went on, diversified by inharmonious strains of large gramophones and other barbaric instruments. It was a glorious week but a trifle tiring. You see a County Council man has something to do to earn his living!

(To be concluded.)



## FANCIERS AND FANCY MATTERS.

BY WILLIAM W. BROOMHEAD.

## "THE AMATEURS' SHOW."

Last month I asked, "Where are the amateurs?" The attempt to found a "protective club" for amateur exhibitors appears to have been something of a failure; nevertheless, we have had another example of what can be done by them when they are catered for. "The Amateurs' Palace" has come and gone. I refer to the third annual show of the Southport Poultry Association, which was held on September 28th. Here the exhibits are limited to the value of £3; and if the average for the thirty-two classes provided at the event was not twenty it was merely a fraction short of it. Numerically, then, the show was a huge success,

lection was there at one show such a mass of rubbish penned." This may be considered a very sweeping statement; but my friend knows a good bird and is an old time breeder and exhibitor, in addition to which he is a capable all-round judge of poultry and visits most of the shows held annually in the Midlands and North. And, moreover, two at least of the reports of the event appearing in the Fancy weeklies coincide with this statement in a large degree. Candidly, I am not surprised at it. And why? Simply because the majority of amateur exhibitors nowadays know something of the value of a good fowl, and it is unreasonable to expect that for a maximum of £3



**Students at work on Miss Edwards' poultry farm.**

These Buff Orpington Pullets are bred from a hen that laid 261 eggs in 49 weeks, and are penned with a cock from the hen that laid 240 eggs in less than 12 months.

and no doubt when the balance sheet is made up there will be something in hand for next year's exhibition. But how about the quality? Unfortunately I was not able to be present, but I have first hand information from an old fancier who put in an appearance, and—well, I will quote from a letter he has sent to me.

"Yea, verily," he writes, "Southport Show was a great affair, but," he adds, "the general opinion of the old fanciers present—and quite a number attended in the hopes of picking up a bird or two for future shows—was, that never in man's recol-

they would pen birds worth much more. It is well known that at the first venture of the Southport Poultry Association many splendid bargains were obtained, and some of the fowls bought there were champions ere their show careers were ended. But the amateur has grown wise since then, hence I can see the justification for my friend's remark anent rubbish.

Mr. A. V. Holt and his executive have done their best for the amateur, and all credit to them. An entry of considerably over 600 in thirty-two classes is one of which any show committee can be justly



proud. But, the thought occurs, is the price limit high enough? That it does not exclude the so-called professionals can be seen by a glance through the prize list, in which appear the names of more than a couple of well-known fanciers who can scarcely claim the title of amateur. It would appear, then, that some other scheme must be set going to exclude the "pro's" and keep the Southport Show for amateurs purely and simply. To enter into details here is not my intention; but in my opinion it would answer better to put full trust in the amateurs by removing the price limit altogether, so as to encourage them to pen the very best birds they breed, since it is well known that more than one veritable champion of the year has been bred and shown by a backyard fancier. And then make more stringent rules as to who may exhibit. I would suggest, for instance, that some regulations similar to those governing the amateur section connected with the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's Show might be adopted. Let me repeat that I wish the venture well. The amateur must have his chance, since the vast majority of the shows held annually in the British Isles are those at which there is no bar to the professional poultry fancier or the deck sweeper.

#### SPECIALIST CLUBS' SHOWS.

The idea of holding a combined specialist clubs' show this year, which I mentioned earlier in the season, has ended in talk, which is not very surprising, since it is by no means easy to fix on a suitable venue for such an affair, while another difficulty is to choose dates that do not clash with other important events. As may be seen from the schedule issued by the International executive, some twenty-six English and two Continental specialist clubs will hold their annuals at the Crystal Palace this year. These are the Brahma, the Croad Langshan, the Black Orpington, the Buff Orpington, the Variety Orpington (White, Jubilee, and Spangled), the Cuckoo and Blue Orpington, the United Wyandotte, the Leghorn, Plymouth Rock and Andalusian, the Sussex, the Houdan, the Minorca, the Brown Sussex, the Ancona, the Rose-combed Minorca, the Campine, the Indian Game, the Yokohama, the Black Sumatra Game, the Silkie, the Brahma Bantam (quite distinct from the Brahma Club), the Hamburg Bantam, the Rose-comb Bantam, the Sebright Bantam, the Orpington Duck, the Waterfowl, the White Turkey, the Belgian Campine, and the Bearded Bantam (of Belgium).

This is indeed a large array, but—there are others. Three of the single variety Wyandotte Clubs will go to York, and these are the Partridge, the White, and the Silver Pencilled. The Langshan Society, the Blue Langshan Club, the White Leghorn Club, and the Variety Bantam Club will also join hands with the York Christmas Exhibition. The Black Wyandotte Club Show, and that of the Columbian, as well as the Andalusian and the Buff Leghorn Clubs' Shows will take place at Leeds, but I have not yet heard where the Variety Wy-

andotte Club (if this body is still in the land of the living) will pitch its tent. The annual "meets" of the White Rock Club, the Leghorn Club, and the Redcap Club were held at Manchester; and the Plymouth Rock Club at Barnstaple towards the end of last month, and in my opinion rather too early in the season for such events. The Plymouth Rock Society—which is quite distinct from the Club of that name—the British Rhode Island Red Club, and the Blue Wyandotte Club are announced for Wolverhampton on the 20th and 21st instant; and the Black Leghorn and the Buff Plymouth Rock Clubs will hold their shows at Bristol just a week after, this latter event being a two-day affair also. Then there will be the Scottish Game and Game Bantam Club Show in Glasgow on the 23rd instant, and the Scottish Wyandotte Club at Airdrie on the last day of the present month; while the White Orpington Club is fixed for December 5 at the Camberwell Baths in connexion with the South Metropolitan Fanciers Association's popular event.

The above list is formidable enough in all conscience, and yet it does not complete the number of specialist poultry clubs which invariably have an annual show. Up to the time of writing these notes I have not heard of the venues for the Jubilee Orpington and the Spangled Orpington (each variety having a club show "on its own," although I fear that the recently formed Red Orpington Club is not quite strong enough, financially or numerically, for such a venture this year), the Gold and Silver Laced Wyandotte Club, and the New Malines Club, among others; while there are the other Scottish Clubs (such as the Leghorn, the Minorca, and the Variety Bantam) as well as two or three Welsh Clubs, which have not yet made their arrangements, or at any rate, announced them. Of a truth the poultry Fancy is quite a big hobby—or is it industry?

#### THE DAIRY SHOW.

As I have elsewhere in the present issue referred to the above event I do not intend to say much here. On arrival at the Hall on Tuesday morning, I heard that someone was "thirsting for my blood," as it were; but not being of a very nervous temperament, and fortified with a clear conscience, I went forth to do battle. Stumbling across the chief poultry Steward, I found my man. My "Defects of the Dairy Show" in last month's *Record*, was the cause of the trouble. It had been written by me, so Mr. L. C. Verrey informed me, that "certain breeds are specially favoured." Off-hand I could not recollect the passage, but on reference to my file I find I wrote "Why is it that some breeds appear to get a distinct advantage over others in the matter of staging?" I never was much good at translations, but somehow I cannot make the one tally with the other. I made no definite statement, but merely asked a question. However, we settled matters by Mr. Verrey declaring that if we are both alive for next year's show—and, really, I hope we will be—he will make me attend on the Saturday and do the numbering of



the pens!

That the staging at last month's show did not please all was evident from the grumbling I heard in certain quarters. But let me say right here, and please do not misunderstand me, it is practically impossible with the means at hand for the executive to suit all. Some of the Orpington men wanted to know why the Buffs were on the top row, where it was rather difficult to examine the birds for colour—and where, too, the long-legged ones were not at an advantage—and why the Whites, or many of them, were penned on the bottom row and in a rather poor light for colour. And more than one fancier of Sussex could not see why the selling classes for the breed were where they could not be readily found. There you are! Others there may have been; nevertheless it was simply and solely a matter of allocating certain species to certain rooms and then getting the numbers to run as consecutively as possible. The Agricultural Hall at Islington is not the most ideal building for a poultry show; but let me repeat this—the Stewards did their very best in the circumstances. Pride of place cannot be given to any breed; and the sooner the fanciers of the popular kinds recognise this the better.

Most of us look on Haywards Heath as a kind of preliminary canter for the Dairy—a winner at the one is good enough to score at the other. In some cases this proved to be so, but in others the reverse was the result, and I saw more than one Haywards Heath winner hopelessly out of it at Islington, and yet there was a difference of well under three weeks between the two events. One of the most amusing instances of a win at the Sussex fixture being repeated at the Dairy was in Jubilee Orpington cockerels. This bird scored at the former show the first prize in the £2 selling class for Sussex fowls, as a speckled; it was claimed there, at catalogue price I believe, and was an easy winner as a Jubilee Orpington in that class at the Dairy. Much has been said of these two varieties, that the newer is none other than the old Speckled Sussex; and some readers, who are not well enough up in the knowledge of fancy fowls to distinguish between breeds, may be inclined to say that this proves the statement. But it is not so. There never were two more ideal birds of their kind than the Speckled Sussex cockerel which won first prize in the open class at Haywards Heath and the bird which scored a similar award in the selling class at that event. Of course the latter should never have been placed in the prize list, even in a selling class, as a Sussex, since the cockerel is one of the most ideal Jubilee Orpingtons—not only in shortness of back and legs and depth of body, but in colours and markings, and head gear—that has ever graced a show pen. I congratulated the purchaser on his "find," since there are few cockerels of such stamp going the rounds this season; and if the bird holds up—his jaunt to the Dairy may have brought on a moult—he should win right through the "classics" this year.

"BETTER LATE——."

The Black Orpington Club has just issued its, shall I say, year book for 1912, but this is due to a combination of unavoidable circumstances, which, nevertheless, could have been prevented had there been the right amount of grit in the executive. The publication is a six leaf affair within a slate-coloured cover, and it consists of a list of the



**A White Wyandotte Cockerel.** [Copyright.]

One of the best breeds there is for general purposes. The hens are good layers, especially in the winter, while the edible qualities are very good.

officers, the annual report and balance sheet, and a list of members; but for some reason there is no mention of the club judges although there are three blank pages in the pamphlet. From the report I see that the membership is down to 150, for while one life member and eleven annual members joined, seventeen members resigned, four were struck off



for non-payment of subscriptions, and death claimed one member. The difficulty of collecting subscriptions is demonstrated in the report—"notwithstanding numerous applications there are still twenty-three subscriptions unpaid for 1910 and no less than fifty-six for 1911." In the circumstances it is not surprising to find that the balance in the Secretary's hand is so low as £8 13s. 0½d. However, now that the Black Orpington is coming to the front again it may be the means of the club having a better time this year. Mr. W. M. Bell is again Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, since Mr. H. O'C. Jones, who was appointed at last year's general meeting to fill those offices, has gone abroad.

#### POULTRY CLUB MATTERS.

It may be news to some, although with me it was a foregone conclusion, that the Poultry Club Show will not be held early in January, 1913. At a meeting of the committee, held at the Dairy Show, the matter was fully discussed and it was resolved to defer the fixture until the latter part of 1913, which cannot be said to be other than a very wise move. No good comes of rushing things through, and assuredly this would have been the case had the committee decided to continue with the present idea. An exhibition of the magnitude that the Poultry Club Show should be, cannot be fixed up in a few weeks. Personally I am strongly opposed to such a venture, not only because the others have proved utter failures, but because there is no need and no room for it. The mission of the Poultry Club is not to run a show but to see that those who do so conduct their events on proper lines.

As far as the constitution of the council, or more strictly, the vice presidents, the recent Poultry Club election has proved a big expense for nothing, since in all cases the retiring officers have been re-elected. There is, of course, a change of President and Secretary. The late Secretary retired, was nominated as President, and naturally got the votes, while an old and tried hand was nominated as Secretary and Treasurer and proved better than the several other aspirants for that post. But since both had been sitting on the council for some years, and the retiring president, who was also a past president, will still retain a seat there is practically no change. Hence those who say that things have not been as they should have been during the past year or so *will* be pleased! It is worth noting in connection with the recent election that some 1,467 voting papers were issued, but so impassive remains the ordinary member that only 543 (roughly calculated just over a third) were returned, and of them ten had to be counted out. Is it a sign that the club is on the downward grade? Some think so; but it was ever thus in the Fancy when elections were on.

The annual general meeting of the club at the Dairy Show was a good draw: there appeared to be a larger attendance than usual. But a most

attractive agenda paper had been issued, such a one that must stand out in the annals of fanciers clubs—or any other bodies for the matter of that—and certainly in those of the Poultry Club itself. The usual items were nicely rushed through—I always think it a pity to go over those dry-as-dust items that all must know since they are circulated in cold print some time beforehand—and then the meeting got to business. There was plenty of "talkee-talkee" and little real business done after all, and ere the middle of the agenda was reached the meeting was adjourned to the Palace Show this month.

#### NOVEMBER SHOWS.

So far well over sixty shows are announced to be held during the present month, and ere these notes appear other events will probably be fixed for November. Hadleigh, Suffolk, is announced for to-day and this is followed by Seaton Terrace (Northumberland), Woodville (Derbyshire), New Mills (Cheshire), and Kirkcudbright (N.B.) on the 2nd. Bodmin (Cornwall), Wilmslow (Cheshire), Hassock (Sussex), and Fareham (Hants) will take place on the 6th, while on the 6th and 7th there are Morecambe (Lancs), Woolston (Hants), and Maidenhead (Berks), and these will clash with Neath (Glamorganshire), Appleby (Westmorland), Thornbury (Gloster), Baslow (Derby), and Spalding (Lincolnshire), all of which are fixed for the 7th. In the following week there will be the Grand International at the Crystal Palace on the 12th, 13th, and 14th, and which with its 591 classes for poultry is by far the greatest show of the year. On the same days there will be exhibitions at Dartmouth and Haverfordwest, on the 12th; Flyingdales (Yorks), 13th; Tisbury (Wilts), 13th and 14th; and Swansea (Glamorgan), Merthyr (Glamorgan) and Windermere (Westmorland), on the 14th; the week closing with Wisbech (Cams). Enfield (Middlesex), Kelty (N.B.) 23rd; and Belper (Derby), Northampton, Hadleigh (Essex), Amble-side (Westmorland), Cirencester (Gloster), and Leatherhead (Surrey) are down for the 20th, Cradley Heath and Wolverhampton for the 20th and 21st, Darley Dale (Derby), Ammanford (Carmarthen), Resolven (Glamorgan), Bonsall (Derby) and Theydon Bois (Essex) 21st, and Consett (Durham), Cockermouth (Cumberland), Hinckley (Leicester), Longridge (Preston) and Castle Douglas (N.B.) 23rd. Lord Tredegar's show at Newport (Monmouth), and Ulverstone (Lancs), are booked for the 26th, Chelmsford (Essex), for the 26th and 27th, Horsham (Sussex), and Paignton (Devon) 27th, Portsmouth (Hants), Wandsworth (London, S.W.), and Bristol (Gloucester) 27th and 28th, Chippenham (Wilts) 28th and 29th, with the great Birmingham event (the grandmother of poultry shows, as it has been termed) opening on the 30th inst. and closing on December 5th, and providing 253 classes for poultry and eggs.



## EXPERIMENTAL POULTRY-KEEPING AT KING'S LANGLEY.

FOR something like a dozen years, Mr. T. W. Toovey has been known for his poultry establishment at King's Langley, Herts. A miller and corn merchant with a large business he has distinct advantages, especially in relation to food stuffs. Yet he has found time for poultry-breeding on an extensive scale, and has found it profitable, although he freely admits that had he devoted the same attention in other directions he might have made more money. That, however, does not affect the question, nor yet weaken the force of his example. Perhaps, also, had Mr. Toovey been less ready to test new methods on a large scale he might have reaped larger profits, for it is nothing

been given previously (see ILLUSTRATED POULTRY RECORD, January, 1910).

Intensiveness of production is probably a necessity, but there are vast differences as to how it is carried out, and it may be conducted on more or less extensive lines. To apply back-yard or "bird-cage" methods of poultry-keeping on a farm appears to be foolish in the extreme. Mr. Toovey's aim seems to find the relationship of cultivation with poultry-keeping, and at the same time, in what direction he can profitably apply intensification. Hence the experiments are of considerable interest, and may help in solving problems of importance to the industry at large.



One of the Large Laying Houses at King's Langley, with the shutters closed.

[Copyright

to him to scrap hundreds of pounds worth of appliances if he thinks better are obtainable. This spirit is praiseworthy. Pioneering is usually costly. Only those with capital, and who combine the more profitable branches, that is, sale of stock birds, eggs for hatching, and day-old chickens, can afford it. But it is of great value to others.

Our present purpose is to deal with the later developments at the Langley and Well Farms, as these are specially interesting, some of which are reproduced in the accompanying photographs. A general description is not attempted, as that has

What is known as the Philo System of housing has a fascination all its own. It is being boomed in this country as well as in America. That, however, is not new. Years ago Major Morant advocated a similar system, which, however, although the cages were removed regularly on to fresh ground, did not prove financially successful. Our first photograph shows a range of modified Philo houses, now surrounded by large runs. More need not be said than that Mr. Toovey has abandoned the "bird-cage" method as it was a failure.



Some distance from the Langley Farm, near the main line of the London and North-Western Railway Co., is a long narrow field of nearly 20 acres. At one time this was occupied by small houses and pens, which have since been scrapped. In place of these have been built a series of fifteen large 30ft. by 20ft. houses, to each of which is allocated an acre of land, divided into two parts for alternative occupation. The type of house is shown in our second photograph. These houses are well built, are lofty and well ventilated. In front are large windows with netting above, which latter can be covered by sliding shutters in winter if that is thought desirable, and the solid door can be replaced in

beautiful autumn day when our visit was paid, not a single one of the more than 2,000 hens in this field were out in the runs.

At Well Farm, nearly three miles away, a totally different system is found. This is on arable land at a high elevation and exposed to "a' the airts the wind can blow." Here we find the colony system, as the land is arable. That allocated to the poultry is occupied wholly by them for one year, after which it is cultivated for four or five years. The influence upon the crops has been very great indeed. At first larger houses were used, but it was found that the fowls crowded a few of them, and that they blew over when strong winds prevailed. Now a small house is used holding



**Shelf Fireless Brooders on Mr. Toovey's Farm.**

[Copyright.]

summer by one of netting. Under the fixed sloping boards is netting which is never covered. The floor is cement, covered thickly with road scrapings and chaff above to provide a scratching litter. This is spaded over frequently and renewed about once a month. The perches are at the back, and drop boards are not used as Mr. Toovey does not like them. Here soft food is fed in the afternoon. On the high ground at Well Farm, where the birds are very exposed, that is given in the morning. In each of these houses 150 birds are kept, allowing 4 sq. ft. of floor space for each. A very suggestive and striking fact is that although the inmates have half-an-acre of grass land to run over they hardly come out of the house. Although it was a

about a dozen, as shown in the photograph. These are grouped in lots of fourteen, seven in a row. The first two at each end are chained together against the winds. Within the rows are placed laying boxes, and in the runs are shelter sheds as in No. 5. Here the hens are outside all the time. It is evident that size of house influences habit. It is stated that egg-production is fairly equal under both systems, from which it would appear that method must be adapted to environment.

As already indicated, Mr. Toovey has a strong *penchant* for intensive methods, strong evidences of which are seen in methods of rearing at Langley. It is interesting to note that he has not a single



incubator on the place, and all hatching is done by hens, for which in one shed he has accommodation for 175 setters, which is being extended to 200. On the other hand the rearing is entirely artificial.

Here the fireless brooder has proved an undoubted success for nine months of the year, and one of our views shows forty of these machines (the Meech) in a single field. Both Mr. Toovey and his chief man declare that the mortality is less, the vigour of the chicks greater, and the labour much reduced than when heated brooders were employed. Certainly the birds looked healthy in the extreme and quite contented with their quarters, whilst the feathering was natural and even. It is important to note that the brooders are removed daily on to fresh ground, and much of the success achieved may be attributed to that, although it is against the advice of Mr. Philo. The reason why these brooders have not proved so successful in winter is not a question of temperature, but of dampness. That may be special to our climate, but it is an important point.

Another method of rearing is being tried, namely, on shelves, as shown on previous page, which repre-

sents half the range. This differs distinctly from other places we have seen, where the cages were in closed houses. Here they are in open fronted sheds, so that ventilation is abundant. Each compartment, holding about 30 to 40 birds at first, to be thinned out as they grow, has less than half the front close-boarded, the rest being barred, and as there are no partitions inside there is a free circulation of air. These are mainly used for rearing chicks to be fattened, as a large business is done in table poultry, but a trial is being made to see whether layers can be successfully grown under these conditions. It is too early to express an opinion as to the system, and the final results after prolonged trial cannot fail to be of great interest. As shown in the illustration there are two shelves. Cleanliness and careful feeding are found to be essential, as might be anticipated.

It is of interest to note that Mr. Toovey is firmly of opinion that breeding and laying birds must have natural conditions, and that it would be unwise to use eggs from birds kept in very small runs for hatching purposes whether the method of rearing be intensive or not.

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## THE DAIRY SHOW OF 1912.

THAT the "Dairy" is as popular as ever goes beyond saying, and at last month's event—held on October 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th—there were 3,330 entries in the poultry section, thirty more than at last year's show and only seventeen below the record entry of 1906. As usual the live poultry classes were opened by those for breeding-pens and they attracted quite a nice entry, that for Plymouth Rocks, Orpingtons or Wyandottes being the strongest with seventeen, a fine quartette of Partridge Wyandottes gaining the silver medal. Dorkings showed a most satisfactory increase, there being no less than twenty-one more than at last year's exhibition, while quality, particularly in Dark or Coloured, was very high. There has been a stronger entry of Modern Langshans, but seldom have there been better Blacks, although the Blues, of which there were only four, were decidedly disappointing. The Croad Langshans far outnumbered the others and some splendid specimens of the old type were staged.

Brahmas were not very strong, numerically, and it was disappointing to find the class for Dark cockerels cancelled. Nevertheless, there were no better birds in the show, and none in finer condition. Cochins, again, had a cancelled class, this for Buff or Partridge cockerels; and, as a whole, the quality was hardly up to the usual for the Dairy, while numbers were decidedly down. On getting to the Minorcas, however, the visitor found much to attract his attention, and it is questionable if a finer display has ever been seen, both the cockerels and pullets being of a very high class, and with little between the winners. Houdans, too, were a good level lot, and the medal winning cockerel will

take some stopping. An excellent entry of Faverolles turned up, and although the Salmon outnumbered the more recently made White this latter variety is not to be despised, in fact it is a most charming one for the lover of beautiful fowls. The Campines were proof that there is something tangible in the present boom; indeed, a finer collection has never been seen at a show. The one class for Polands produced thirteen entries, a charming White-crested Black pullet gaining first prize and a finely laced and large crested Chamois pullet being second. Hamburgs had two (pen-cilled) of their six classes cancelled, and there was not a strong entry in the others: nevertheless quality ran high.

Modern Game were merely a shadow of former days as regards classification and quality, and the class for any other colour pullets was cancelled. Old English Game were about up to the average, the strongest class being that for any other colour pullets. There was only a poor entry of Black Sumatra Game, and the quality was not as good as has been seen in this breed at the Dairy. There is a craze for reach in Malays to such an extent that many of the characteristics of this "beautiful ugly" breed are being lost, lack of the necessary curves and heavy brows being particularly noticeable. Indian Game, on the other hand, were well up to standard requirements, and the winning pullet, which gained the medal, was a beautiful model. There were two strong classes of Andalusians, with quality particularly high as a whole. Leghorns were not so numerous as usual, in fact there were only three of the fourteen classes with more than twelve entries. Quality was highest in the White



cockerels, and the winner was as near perfection as it is possible to breed a fowl. Plymouth Rocks, and particularly the two classes for Barred, were very numerous. In this variety, type appears to have been sacrificed to colour and barring, and it would be well if breeders turned their attention to the correct Plymouth Rock shape. The Buff and White were much better in this respect, and in size, too, while nothing was lacking in colour.

The entries of Wyandottes were hardly as good as they have been, and the quality was somewhat mixed. The Laced varieties were undoubtedly the best of all, and the Gold cockerel—which easily won the medal—as well as the two winning Silvers were indeed champions; in fact, on the whole, it is questionable if a finer lot of this latter colour has ever been staged at the Dairy. The Whites were again a special feature, there being no less than 101 in the two classes, and the judge was not to be envied in his task of “sorting them out.” Blacks were of splendid colour, but type was lacking, while the leg colour of the pullets was not very good. There was an increase in the entries of Partridges, but although the quality was fairly level, there were many birds which showed better than they handled; in fact, the judge stated that the best of them fell short of being real “top sawyers.” The Silver Pencilled cockerels were better than the pullets; but the Columbians were particularly pleasing, and the winning pullet was as near as possible to the ideal of the pure white body with sound hackle marking and well-laced tail. The Blues were a mixed lot, and although the cockerels showed more improvement than the pullets, the variety has “a long way to go” ere it can be called a satisfactory one. The Spangled are coming ahead, but the winner—there was only one class, for cockerel or pullet—was protested against on the score of age. The any other colour classes contained some choice Buffs, but Buff Laced and Blue Laced, as well as some other new varieties, were conspicuous by their absence.

There was a decided falling off in the Orpington classes, the total for the fourteen being 332, as against 377 in the ten classes last year. Blacks were down from 84 to 53, but the quality was splendid, both the winning cockerel and pullet being about perfection. Whites were reduced from 148 to 121; the cockerels as a whole were short of the usual Dairy standard, but the pullets were a much better lot for quality. There were only 80 Buffs as against 112 last year, nevertheless nothing was lacking as regards general excellence, although the winning pullet was somewhat of a chicken for premier award at such an important fixture. There have been better Jubilees than those at last month's show, and the cockerels all round are not very strong this season, although the winner was an ideal bird and easily headed his class. The Spangled were rather better, and true Orpington stamp was noticeable, particularly in the pullets. Blues were numerous and good, but the awards did not please all, although it never does

any harm to vary them at times. The Cuckoos were poor both numerically and otherwise, and it would be a good thing for the variety if it were re-christened the Barred; at present the colour is somewhat sickly, and reminds one too forcibly of a weedy Plymouth Rock to commend it to many fanciers.

Rhode Island Reds—why will “the powers that be” insist on using the prefix British?—came up very well indeed, and the entries in the two new classes for Rosecombs should guarantee them a place in next year's schedule. It cannot be said that much improvement has been made in the colour, which in too many birds resembled a dark laced red, while breeders would be well advised to pay rather more attention to head points, and especially to the colour of the lobes. The Sussex made an excellent display, in fact as a collection of the three varieties fostered by the Sussex Poultry Club, there has never been one to equal it. The Reds held their own well, while the Lights were a decided advance on last year's quality, and the Speckled are Sussex fowls in all points, the winning pullet, which scored three specials and two for the best bird of either sex, being a perfect specimen. The three classes for Anconas were not very encouraging, numerically, but the quality was high, the winners being an excellent lot. Silkies, too, were not numerous, but they were up to the usual Dairy standard; and the same may be said of the Yokohamas, the class for males being a very weak one. One of the two Any Other Variety classes, and that for pullets, was cancelled, and nothing interesting turned up in the one that stood. The selling classes made a show by themselves, and some satisfactory bargains were picked up at the auction sales, many of the birds realising much more than catalogue prices.

Bantams were both numerous and good, and throughout the section the classes were for birds of any age. Pile Modern Game were particularly strong, while there was a fine display of Spangle Old English Game, and some charming Rosecombs, Pekins, Sebrights, Japanese, and Scotch Greys were exhibited. The Waterfowl section was a most interesting one, and not only were the entries strong but the quality was high, many noted winners of the season being present. Pekins were the only two classes that had to be cancelled, which is to be regretted, since it is a handsome and useful breed. Aylesburys were good, although hardly up to the usual form perhaps. Rouen came up well, while the Orpingtons (Buff as well as Blue) had a splendid entry, and the Indian Runners formed a show in themselves. Geese were well filled classes, and especially the Embden, but the medal went to a Toulouse. The class for White Turkey hens was cancelled, but there was a nice display of cocks, which show decided improvement. The Bronze were very strong, there being sixty-three in the four classes, and many of the young birds were well grown and showed much promise.

W. W. B.



## TABLE POULTRY AT THE DAIRY SHOW.

THERE was a decided improvement in this section as compared with last year's display, both numerically and in respect of quality. There were those who complained of a lack of evenness in some classes, but outside the Sussex fattening districts, where there is a common standard, such an ideal as a near approximation to a general level of size, quality, and finish is almost unattainable. There were of course—as there will be until weights are limited by rules—birds of almost abnormal proportions, but however much one may dissent from those who lavish praise without discrimination, it is impossible to avoid a due recognition of the skill employed in breeding, rearing, fattening, and preparing some of the heavy-weight specimens seen at Islington. They are not good examples of commercial production, but as mere exhibits they are excellent. The trouble is that all the visitors do not know the difference, and more normal birds suffer by an ignorant comparison. The exhibits sent by the Marchioness of Londonderry made a fine display, and undoubtedly reflected great credit upon that well-known fattener, Mr. Mothersele, who was responsible for their production. That they gained the gold medal, three silver medals, and other prizes and cards was the just reward of achievement—in accordance with a prevailing ideal. But such a display must not overawe us, or be allowed to obscure the sense of proportion. It must always be remembered that, under existing conditions of exhibition, the opportunities of exhibitors are very unequal. It is true that at the Dairy Show there are special classes confined to farmers and cottagers; these are all very well as far as they go, but they by no means exhaust the possibilities in desirable and useful classification. Having cleared the ground to that extent, it is time to get down to particulars.

An important change in the classification substituted two Orpington classes for those previously

provided for Dorkings. The change was timely and justified. The new classes filled very well. In that for cockerels a couple of Whites gained first prize for Mr. F. H. Wheeler, his birds being of good size and evenly matched; Mr. W. A. Smith's couple of Buffs, placed second, were large but rather unequal; and Mr. T. Moss was third with very fair quality Buffs. In a nice collection of pullets, Mr. W. A. Smith's well-fattened couple won the silver medal; Messrs. J. Adams' and G. F. Buckle's exhibits being second and third respectively. Sussex fowls were well represented in both classes, and in that for cockerels the Marchioness of Londonderry was awarded first and second prizes for birds of the Speckled variety—the first couple (gold and silver medals) being remarkable for size, colour, texture of flesh, and appearance; the third prize went to Mr. Wheeler's Reds—rather stubby. In pullets Mr. E. G. Grant gained first and second prizes, both couples being white in colour and of good size; Mr. John Adams was third, also with birds of good colour and finish. The A.O.V. classes were mostly filled with the deposed Dorkings, and as a whole the exhibits were excellent; Mr. W. H. Edwards' first prize cockerels and Mrs. Furney's first prize pullets exhibiting a good breast development and depth of carcase.

The cross-bred classes claimed particular attention, being well filled and for the most part with birds of size and quality combined. It was in this division that the Marchioness of Londonderry was especially successful with a string of Game-Dorkings, which in the cockerel class gained the silver medal, and the first, second, third, and reserve; in pullets the second, third, and reserve—to the Earl of Plymouth's first prize Indian Game-Dorkings. Two first prizes, a second and a third, went to Mr. E. G. Grant, who favours the Dorking-Red Sussex cross and turns out birds of excellent quality, colour, and size. Other successful exhibitors were Mr. H. J. Tennant, M.P., with a Faverolles-Wyandotte cross; and Lord Rothschild with a Red Sussex-Orpington cross. The waterfowl classes

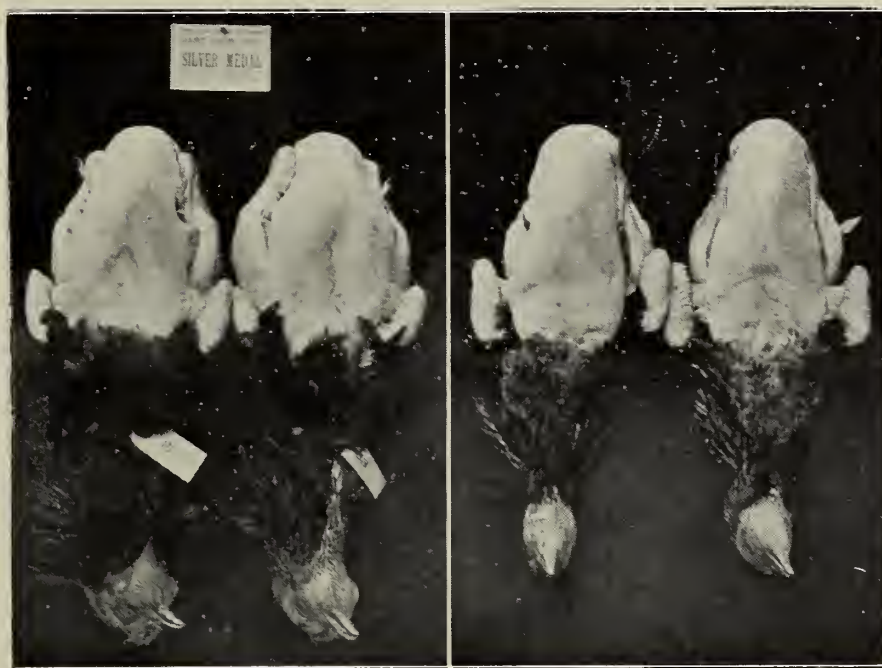


Table Chickens at the Dairy Show.

1st Prize and Silver Medal  
Game-Dorking Cockerels.

Exhibited by the  
Marchioness of Londonderry

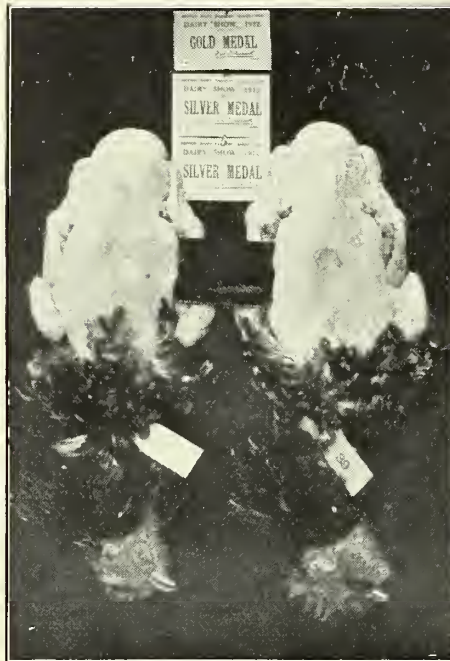
1st Prize Indian Game-Dorking  
Pullets.

Exhibited by the  
Earl of Plymouth.



were decidedly unequal and the ducks generally poor and few, with the exception of the Pekins, which won the silver medal and first and second prizes for Mr. Stephen Deacon, both couples being of exceptional size and quality. The gosling class was better than the foregoing, although very mixed. The couple of Embden-Toulouse that gave the first prize to Mr. Tennant were well placed in the premier position, and Mrs. A. Edwards' second and third prize winners were well grown and well prepared.

In the comparatively large, but miscellaneous, special classes for unfattened fowls there was plenty of room for improvement as regards many of the exhibits, although in several instances the exhibitors displayed skill in rearing and preparation. The best couple of both cockerels and pullets gained the first prize in their respective classes and in the former the silver medal as well, for Mrs. S. Hayward, the birds in each instance being in good table condition in respect of size, quality and development. Prizes in these classes also went to Messrs. T. Moss, A. J. Snook, S. F. Buckle, and A. J. Clarke. The unfattened ducks were less successful, except for Mr. W. E. Readings' exhibits—of good colour, size, and finish—which were placed first and second. These birds were in each case Aylesburys, as also were Mr. Owen White's third prize couple.



**Champion Sussex Cockerels**  
(Gold and 2 Silver Medals).  
Exhibited by the  
Marchioness of Londonderry.



**1st Prize and Silver Medal**  
**Pekins.**  
Exhibited by  
Mr. Stephen Deacon.

#### **Chickens and Ducks at the Dairy Show.**

in a manner complementary one to the other. With the proper protection afforded by good shed accommodation the cost of feeding is minimised. The scratching floor affords that opportunity for feeding that provides an incentive to exercise, and the well-nourished, active bird thrives in the partially open-fronted roost. Overcrowding and the bad ventilation of closed houses are particularly liable to cause trouble at this season. Chills and colds result from overheating and confinement in a vitiated atmosphere rather than from external conditions, and health is the first requirement of production. Especial care is necessary in the management of autumn and winter chicken, and the fact that grass is more or less wet at this season,

and generally frosty in the early morning, is sufficient to render it unsuitable for young chickens until the sun has evaporated the excess of moisture. Under the best housing conditions, chickens running straight out on wet grass in the early morning are liable to contract avoidable disorders, and there is considerable use for movable outer runs until full liberty is advisable. For some purposes breeding pens should be mated up allowing sufficient time for the birds to settle down before their eggs are wanted for setting.

The usual extreme

difference between the day and night temperature adds to the difficulties of working brooders at this season, and there is much danger of getting a stuffy night atmosphere unless ample ventilation is provided.

#### **DUCKS.**

Duck breeders who contemplate an early commencement of operations may very well use an Aylesbury-Indian Runner mating for the production of really early ducklings, and if the stock birds are not already mated no time should be lost now. Aylesbury ducks are by no means reliable layers early in the season, and although the cross-bred ducklings are comparatively small, this drawback is fully compensated by the enhanced value at the time when they become ready for marketing. Aylesburys of an early laying

### **ROTATION OF PRODUCTION.**

**(NOVEMBER.)**

BY J. W. HURST.

#### **FOWLS.**

This is the egg producer's season of promise wherein he looks to his pullets to fulfil his expectation, and the efforts of management must be proportionate to the exigencies of the period, but given good birds and condition the response to suitable treatment should be satisfactory. Housing and feeding are the main considerations, and are



strain are, however, always preferable. In any case it is better to produce a few fertile eggs than a larger number of doubtful hatchability, consequently the size of the breeding pen should be strictly limited. Generally speaking, four or five ducks may be mated with a drake, but for early work in bad weather it is often better to run two with one or five with two. The ducks should be selected from among the early hatched birds of the year, and the best approximate age for the drake is from eighteen months to two years—but very heavy drakes should be avoided in the breeding pen. It is a mistake to think that large heavy birds are essential to the production of market ducklings, because a medium-sized, vigorous stock of a good strain is capable of breeding progeny that will weigh almost as much as their parents at eight or nine weeks, and exceed their weight at six months, if properly reared and fed for the purpose.

#### GEESE.

There now remain the old birds and the remainder of the young stock held over for Christmas. Both descriptions must be fed to maintain condition, and the latter will require rather more than usual care even if run where grass is plentiful—the herbage being more or less washy and poor in quality. There is no great interval before the commencement of the fattening period, but there is sufficient time for the birds to go back considerably unless they are properly looked after. Economy in feeding is essential to profit, more especially in the case of birds whose rearing covers a comparatively long period, but it must not be carried to excess. In the same way the old birds must not be allowed to face the winter in a poor condition.

#### TURKEYS.

If the birds are active and sprightly, their plumage bright, and their wattles red, they have come through the earlier bad weather well and general good health may be taken as granted. But their foraging opportunities have become modified by the change of season, and if woodland is available it should now afford some food and encourage exercise among the fallen leaves. A set-back in autumn or early winter is a serious matter and is practically fatal to the attainment of good results at the end of the year, the course of the season being opposed to a good and sufficient recovery. In addition to such other feeding as may be considered necessary, a good feed of grain before roosting time will do much to prevent loss of condition before the special feeding commences next month.

### PAY YOUR DEBTS OF HONOUR.

LEST it be thought that poultry-keepers are unreasonable in demanding full and adequate compensation from the various hunts for their birds killed by foxes, we give below extracts from articles which have recently appeared in two leading journals. Both of these would naturally be on the side of the foxhunters. It speaks volumes for the case of poultry-keepers that these great organs should so fully recognise the justice of the position and that sportsmen shall pay for their sport. In the past that has not been so. How much owners of poultry have unwillingly contributed in this way to maintain foxes, and, therefore, the pleasure of hunters, cannot be told. Probably it amounts to scores of thousands of pounds per annum. This state of affairs must be ended forthwith in one way or another. Unfortunately those least able to make the sacrifice have been mulcted most heavily.—Editor, ILLUSTRATED POULTRY RECORD.

#### THE POULTRY FUND.

Relations between foxhunters and poultry farmers are becoming strained. Poultry farming is spreading as an industry; the cost of foxhunting is increasing, and it is becoming ever less a matter of local comity and good fellowship. The basis on which the whole sport rests is in danger of being forgotten. That basis is that foxes are beasts of prey which do an immense amount of damage both in the hen-roost and in the game covert. They must be killed for the protection both of those who keep poultry and those who preserve game. But "Mus' Reynard," by his gameness and his bag of tricks, has encouraged a way of compassing his death which is at once the foundation of a considerable industry, and a sport which has a great national value in preserving a knowledge of fieldcraft among those who are able to take part in it. British cavalry would have been very much worse led than it was even in its worst days but for the experience gained in the hunting field by its officers.

There has thus come about an agreement for mutual accommodation between foxhunters and those subject to damage that foxes shall not be killed except by hunting; that the hunt shall duly kill them; and that the damage done by foxes shall be made good out of the hunt funds. Two things follow: First, that if the hunt does not kill the foxes, they may be destroyed by other means; secondly, that no hunt is under an obligation to pay damages for mischief done in districts which they do not visit. The hedge-row fox, to which an occasional day is devoted at the end of the season, is an outlaw on both sides.

But having cleared this side issue out of the way, there remains much to be said on the subject of the losses suffered by poultry farmers from foxes which do certainly and definitely come from coverts regularly drawn by hounds. No doubt it is annoying to hunt committees, on the one hand, to find the natural prey of the fox bred in large numbers, kept without adequate protection, and made the subject of huge bills of costs, which there is little means of checking. On the other hand, it is exasperating to the poultry farmer not only to have to suffer from the raids of home-bred foxes, but to have foreign "bagmen" turned down in order to increase the stock of vermin. Hunt committees ought to be not only just but generous in this matter of compensation. Where they are not, we have no hesitation in saying, however unpopular the opinion may be, that the aggrieved farmer has a perfect right to take the law into his own hands. Foxhunters have no right to take their pleasure at the expense of other people. They must remember that it





is of courtesy, not of right, that they enjoy the privilege of riding at large over the country, often with no small damage to fences and gates. Consideration, on the one hand, and good will on the other, are the foundations on which foxhunting rests. We fear that there is a tendency to forget this, and that, as the sport becomes commercialised, depends more on subscriptions, and attracts a greater number of those whose interests are not truly identified with the countryside, it tends to become rather a source of contention than of harmony. If this be so, its chief justification will vanish. If foxhunting ceases to command the sympathy of all classes, it will not long survive.—*Observer*.

### SPORT AND GOOD WILL.

When Sir Robert Murgatroyd, in "Ruddigore," was arraigned before a jury of his ancestors, the most heinous of the daily crimes he pleaded in bar of torment was that he had shot a fox. We hope that such a misdeed may long continue to rank in hunting counties as the eighth deadly sin. But it is as well, in these days, to examine the basis on which the conventional compact of forbearance between foxhunters, farmers, game-preservers, and others rests. It starts from the premiss that foxes are vermin and must be killed; it proceeds to establish that they shall be killed in a particular manner which shall afford sport to those who have the taste, the means, and the leisure to enjoy it, and in no other. From this flows the reciprocal obligation that foxes shall be duly killed by the Hunt, and that, as their numbers are certain to increase by preserving, the Hunt shall be generous in compensation for the losses inflicted by their depredations on those who keep poultry or other live stock sought as their prey. In addition, it is a compact that the farmer shall not endanger the lives of the riders by placing wire in his fences without plain warning of its presence, and that those who ride to hounds shall be careful to avoid unnecessary damage by riding over young wheat, breaking down rails, and leaving gates open. It is also expected that the necessary supplies of forage shall, so far as possible, be purchased locally.

Foxhunting has, of recent years, become a very expensive business. Railway facilities have been greatly increased for the benefit of those who "hunt from town," rich men who ride costly cattle, demand a pace which, in the opinion of many, has reduced the sport to the level of mere steeplechasing; second, horses are the rule rather than the exception; and the Master is compelled to maintain a much more costly stable in order to mount himself and the hunt servants adequately. The consequence is that few Masters in the Home Counties can afford to maintain a pack of fox hounds without a subscription. This, in turn, involves a Hunt Committee and the ethics of the counting-house are introduced into the Sport of Kings. But this is not all. The field has ceased to be composed of the friends and neighbours of the farmers over whose land they ride; forage is supplied by contractors, instead of being purchased locally, and despite subscriptions and "capping" galloping snobs abound who show scant courtesy or consideration for the agriculturist, riding over his wheat and leaving his gates open in a way which arouses his choler and kills his sympathy, more especially as the pace is too hot for him to live with the field on any bit of horseflesh he can afford.

Two years ago an acrimonious dispute arose between Lord Willoughby de Broke and the Warwickshire Hunt, of which he was then Master. There were many points at issue; but the underlying ground of quarrel was the complaint of the Town Brigade that the hunting was not fast enough for them. We merely mention the incident in passing to establish one point. But of all foolish action which a Hunt Committee can take, the most foolish is to be stingy in the matter of the Poultry Fund. Hunting men, especially the intruders from a distance, with more money than manners, must be made to understand that they have no right to ride at will over the face of the country; that they are dependent for

their sport on the forbearance of those who live by the soil, and that, if the Hunt is to show foxes, it must be prepared to pay lavishly and without too nice inquiry for the losses incurred by their depredations. The real country gentleman does understand this; the "business man" disguised in pink does not; and, until he does, such trouble as that which has arisen in West Kent will continue and increase. Good will is the soul of sport; the promotion of good will between classes constitutes the national value of sport; and upon the maintenance of good will the continuance of the sport of foxhunting, at any rate, depends.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

### THE HOLLANDER AT HOME. (1)

AS a justification for his work the author tells that he went first to Holland when he was just out of his 'teens, and that "when I was forty-six I went again," so that between the first and last visits upwards of a quarter of a century had elapsed. In the interim, however, he had been several times in the country, so that the observations here set forth are by no means superficial. Although there is a purpose in the book which does not concern us here, that of fiscal questions, we have read it with the deepest interest, as it gives the best view of the Hollander and his social conditions with which we are acquainted, on the agricultural side, for there is no attempt to give a complete survey of the industrial developments of South Holland. The story set forth is an inspiring one. Here is a people living on land a large portion of which has been reclaimed from the sea and is below the ocean level, the salt waters being kept out by great dykes. In climate and physical features it can claim no special advantages, it has no store of mineral wealth, yet by industry, enterprise, and determination the people have won for themselves general prosperity and comfort, and export annually large quantities of agricultural products. The secret appears to be, in addition to industry and determined labour, simplicity of life, willingness to learn, adaptability to changed conditions, and co-operation, or to use the heading of one of the chapters, "Help U Zelf." Brains and brawn have united in this work. It would appear that here we have another example of how the absence of natural advantages may prove a stimulus, and how what might be regarded as adverse conditions may result in greater success. In regarding the prosperity of this little country it should be remembered that upwards of 62 per cent. of the population live upon and out of the land, so that the wealth of Holland is not due to its manufactories or commerce alone, though both have a place. The most notable fact relating to poultry is that the average number of adult birds is 1,248 per thousand acres of cultivated land, varying from 536 in Friesland to 2,684 in Limburg. The book is beautifully illustrated with a large number of photographs, which add to its value. It is a work worthy of careful study, and upon it both author and publisher may be congratulated.

(1) "A FREE FARMER IN A FREE STATE." By "Home Counties." London: W. Heinemann, 335 pages, illustrated, 6s. net.



## POULTRY COOKERY.

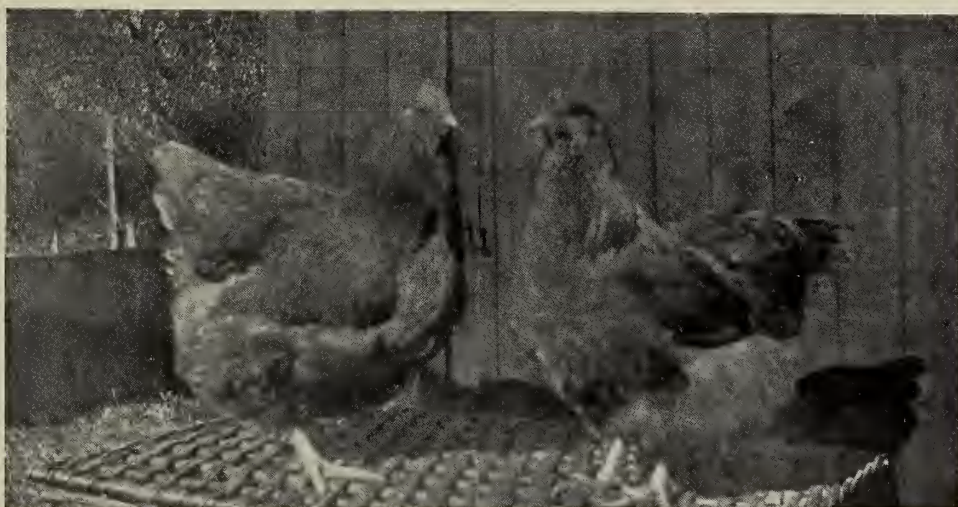
### COOKING AND SERVING GEESE.

**R**ECIPES for roasting, braising, and boiling geese have been given in a previous number of the I.P.R., but the following methods are rather more uncommon, and may therefore prove welcome to our readers.

**Goose Pie.**—Prepare the bird in the usual manner and cut it up into small joints, or half joints will be better if the goose is large, and put them into a stewpan containing a small quantity of good stock; add a bunch of savoury herbs and a large, roughly chopped onion, and stew gently until the meat is three parts-cooked, then take up the pieces and set them aside to cool, and carefully strain off the liquid into a basin. When cold, arrange the goose in a pie dish with a layer of very thinly sliced good cooking apples and a little well made and pleasantly seasoned sage and onion stuffing between the pieces of goose; moisten with

some grill sauce which is made as follows: Put an ounce of fresh butter into a stewpan and as it melts stir in, very smoothly, an ounce of fine flour, and when these are thoroughly blended add half a pint of good stock, a tablespoonful of ketchup, a teaspoonful each of made mustard and essence of anchovies, a dessertspoonful each of chopped capers, onion, and parsley, and a seasoning of salt and pepper, and when the same boils draw the stewpan on one side and simmer the contents gently for five or six minutes, then strain and serve.

**Marinated Goose.**—Make the bird ready in the usual way, then cut it up neatly into pieces of convenient size for serving and spread these out in a single layer on a flat dish; sprinkle well with salt, pepper, mixed herb powder, fine salad oil and pure malt vinegar, and allow the goose to remain thus in a cool place for two or three hours, turning the pieces frequently to ensure their being equally seasoned all through. When required, drain the pieces thoroughly from the marinade, rub them



**A Pair of Buff Orpingtons.**

*(Copyright.)*

This variety, together with the Wyandotte, is the most useful for general purposes.

the strained stock, cover with good suitable pastry, making the crust thick or thin according to taste, then brush over with beaten egg, make a small hole in the centre, and bake in a well heated oven. When taken from the oven have ready some really good gravy made from the odd trimmings of the bird and pour this into the pie through the hole in the top. Serve neatly and very hot.

**Grilled Goose.**—Divide the remains of a cooked goose into small neat pieces and, after removing every particle of skin, gristle, &c., score the flesh in several places and dip the pieces in liquid butter or pure beef dripping; let them soak well, then drain carefully, season rather highly, and roll in finely sifted breadcrumbs. Repeat this process if necessary, then press the covering until quite smooth and firm, and grill over a bright, clear fire. When daintily browned in every part, dish up in a pile on a hot dish paper, surround with a border of very hot crisp potato chips, and serve accompanied by

over with fine flour, then drop them gently into boiling clarified fat and fry until sufficiently cooked and well browned in every part. Have ready a flat bed of well-mashed and seasoned potatoes and upon this dish up the goose in neat order, then garnish round about with glazed onions and small even-sized baked tomatoes arranged alternately, and send to table very hot. No sauce or gravy is required with this dish.

**Hashed Goose.**—Cut the remains of a goose into small neat pieces, and after seasoning these pleasantly, set them in a cool place until required. Peel and slice thin the requisite number of onions, then put them into a stewpan with a slice of good fresh butter, and cook them slowly until tender and just delicately browned without being at all burnt. When done enough add sufficient stock or water to form sauce for the hash, also a seasoning of salt and pepper, a bunch of herbs, the odd bones and trimmings of the goose, and the thin yellow rind



of a small fresh lemon, and boil very gently until the liquid is well flavoured, then strain it off into another stewpan, thicken it just slightly and bring to the boil. Add the goose and let it get thoroughly hot through without reaching boiling point even for a moment, then dish it up in the centre of a carefully prepared potato border, garnish round the edge of the dish with small crisply fried croutons, spread with a layer of sage and onion stuffing which has been beaten to a smooth pulp, and serve the whole as hot as possible.

**Stewed GIBLETS.**—Prepare the giblets very carefully and cut them in small pieces just a convenient size for serving, then place them in a stewpan with a bunch of savoury herbs, a large onion stuck with half a dozen cloves, a seasoning of salt and pepper, and a quart of stock or water. Cook gently and steadily until the meat is tender, then remove the giblets and keep them hot. Remove the bunch of herbs and the onion, thicken the liquid in the stewpan to a nice creamy consistency with roux, and let it boil up, then put back the giblets and let them get thoroughly re-heated. If a few stewed mushrooms or a tablespoonful each of mushroom ketchup and fresh lemon juice are added when the giblets are returned to the stewpan, it will be found a decided improvement. Serve piled up neatly on a hot dish with the sauce poured over and garnished round about with small, crisply-fried potato croquettes, and carefully-cooked, well-drained Brussels sprouts arranged alternately.

### "ENQUIRE WITHIN UPON POULTRY AND EGG PRODUCTION."

By *Ralph R. Allen, Sawbridgeworth, Herts, 1912.*

SOME little time ago, about two years, six pullets were placed in competition with two other pens of birds numbering six each, and sisters to them. The first pen were fed on ordinary foods, the second on similar foods with an addition of capsicum, and the third pen also on similar foods, but with an addition of one teaspoonful of Colman's mustard. The mustard fed birds laid during the period of six months commencing in October and ending in March the grand total of 532 eggs against 359 and 399 produced by the plainly dieted and capsicum fed birds respectively. In this way did Mr. Ralph R. Allen, Poultry Lecturer to the Herts County Council, prove to the public that mustard fed birds produced a larger supply of eggs.

Later he proved that the feeding with mustard in no way debilitated the birds. He produced a short brochure entitled "Mustard for Poultry," followed twelve months later by a booklet giving 101 reasons why mustard should be employed during the winter months to increase production. Mr. Allen has now issued a third brochure entitled "Enquire Within Upon Poultry and Egg Production," containing many valuable hints on practical poultry-keeping. The book is well thought-out and well compiled.

### IRISH SHIPMENTS OF EGGS AND POULTRY.

FROM the Report on the Trade re Imports and Exports at Irish Ports for the year ending December 31st, 1911, (Cd. 6397) just issued by the Department of Agriculture for Ireland, we learn that there was an increase in shipments of eggs and a decrease in poultry. The figures for 1910 and 1911 respectively are:—

1910		EGGS.		1911	
Quantities.	Values.	Quantities.	Values.	Quantities.	Values.
Gt. hds.	£	Gt. hds.	£	Gt. hds.	£
6,227,820	2,744,133	6,488,776	2,940,227		

### POULTRY.

1910		1911	
Cwts.		Cwts.	
331,084	927,035	303,902	850,926

These do not include the exports by Parcels Post amounting in 1911, inclusive of butter, to 30,000 cwts. If half were eggs and poultry the value would be about £60,000, or about equal to the imports which were £63,456 in that year. The export of feathers was valued at £43,512. In respect to eggs whilst the values are highest yet recorded, the quantities though greater in 1911 than in 1910, are below the years 1906, 1907 and 1908.

With regard to average values it may be pointed out that these are estimated at the point of shipment. Eggs in 1911 were 9s. 0<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. per great hundred as compared with 8s. 9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. in 1910, a rise 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. per 120. Poultry are still calculated on the basis of 6d. per lb. as in previous years, which is unsatisfactory in the extreme. A diagram shows that the greatest shipments were in March, April and May, and the lowest in December. The average prices were from May (under 7s.) to December (over 16s. great hundred.)

The net margins of the trade are as under:

Eggs:	Exports	£2,940,227	
	Imports	43,512	
		<hr/>	£2,896,715
Poultry:	Exports	850,926	
	Imports	19,944	
		<hr/>	830,982
Feathers:	Exports	34,921	
	Imports	6,269	
		<hr/>	28,652
Parcels Post Exports			60,000
		<hr/>	
Totals			£3,816,349

It is pointed out that the exports are the surplus over home consumption, so that the total production should be at least £5,000,000 in value. An interesting point to note is that the margin on butter, inclusive of Parcels Post trade is £3,210,902.

Mr. W. Tamlin, of St. Margarets Works, Twickenham, wishes to thank his numerous friends for their kind expressions and good wishes forwarded on to him from the Dairy Show, and he hopes to be able to thank them all personally at the Crystal Palace Show next month.



## TARIFF REFORM AND POULTRY KEEPING.

To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED POULTRY RECORD.

Sir,

I cannot make up my mind whether Mr. Ernest G. Wilson is a humorist or not. In his letter to you he says that if a ten per cent. import duty were imposed on foreign table poultry, the foreigner would continue to send us as much table poultry as now, that the foreigner would pay the whole duty in order "to maintain our valuable market," and that thus the Government "by a stroke of the pen," as Mr. Wilson puts it, might take twice as much out of the pocket of the foreigner as is needed for the National Poultry Institute.

Why, if that were so, a ten per cent. import duty might take £60,000,000 a year for the British Government out of the pockets of foreigners! If our Government could do this, so could all the others, and each of them might be making the others pay its taxes. Being a loyal subject I prefer to pay my own.

But the real purpose of Mr. Wilson is to impose what he calls "a reasonable tariff" which would, as he says, "encourage our British breeders." Mr. Wilson does not wish to keep out foreign goods; indeed, he counts on just as much table poultry coming in then as now, only at a price ten per cent. higher. The only way, therefore, in which the British breeders could benefit under his scheme would be by increasing the prices they charge for their own home-bred poultry, and of course a tariff would enable them to do that. Would the foreigner pay these extra prices too? If not, the British people would have to pay it. Whoever paid it, the poultry would cost more.

Now compare that design with the official statement of the Tariff Reform League (see page 40 Speaker's Handbook) that "the purpose of Tariff Reform is to . . . *increase our food supplies (so giving us cheaper food).*" And did not Mr. J. Chamberlain himself telegraph to Hythe during the recent bye-election that "Tariff Reform would make everything cheaper"?

In another respect Mr. Wilson's Tariff Reform differs from that of his party, for the party platform does not hold that the foreigner would pay the whole of the duty: some Tariff Reformers actually admit that the foreigner would pay none of it; and the party platform hopes to keep out foreign goods by Protection, while Mr. Wilson hopes to let them in.

Yet is Mr. Wilson's letter not without its use. He, at anyrate, does not want the kind of Tariff Reform that will make table poultry cheaper. That being so, I should like to ask him how he expects those from whom he has to buy to resist the temptation of a tariff to raise their prices also. His extra profits would soon be swallowed up, and nobody would be a penny the better off, though everybody would be much more than a penny wiser.

WM. E. DOWDING.

Sir,

The letter of your Tariff Reform correspondent, Mr. E. G. Wilson, is characteristically absurd.

He states that the government could "with a stroke of the pen" raise all the money wanted for the Poultry Institute, and at the same time encourage a British industry. In short, we are still to get the 10% duty by letting foreign poultry in and encourage British poultry keeping by keeping foreign poultry out! What kind of a brain has the man got? You can't have it both ways.

Just let us look at either for a moment. Supposing all the foreign poultry still comes in. Who pays the duty? If it all comes in as before prices will be increased at least 10%. Therefore the British buyer is paying the duty in the increased price. Each buyer of foreign poultry is subscribing to the Poultry Institute. Do you think the public as a body will solemnly pass an act of Parliament (and it needs an act and not a "stroke of the pen") to pay 10% more for its poultry for our benefit. Let those who think so go out on to the hustings and try to convert an ordinary audience of consumers to such an act of grace.

But, says the Tariff Reformer, if they won't do that, it will keep the foreign poultry out and so encourage British poultry-keeping. What becomes of the 10% for the Poultry Institute? The British industry will be encouraged by the increased prices to the British poultry keeper. Supposing we got this for the same output (a very doubtful point) what would be the benefit to the State revenues? The extra price would go into our pockets—very pleasant to us, but of what benefit to the State?



**A Buff-Orpington Pullet.**

Winner of many prizes at the leading shows.

[Copyright.]

In fact, this letter of Mr. Wilson's exposes the whole Tariff Reform fallacy. It would be a delightful thing to all of us to have a tariff in our own trade—and in no other. If we could sell at inflated tariff prices and buy all we want at free trade prices we should be in heaven. But does any sane person think that the rest of the population is going to agree to a tariff *only* on poultry for our benefit? The Tariff Reformer always preaches to each trade separately. He points out how we can get increased prices. He says nothing about our having to pay increased prices for feeding stuffs, of increased wages owing to increased cost of living, of every article we buy being increased in cost. When we consider all these we are convinced that our State under Tariff Reform—which must tax everything before the whole nation will adopt it—would be infinitely worse than it is to-day under our system of free and unfettered trade.

A PRACTICAL POULTRY KEEPER.



## TRADE EXHIBITS AT THE DAIRY SHOW.

The various exhibits of poultry food and appliances manufacturers were as usual one of the attractive features of the recent Dairy Show. The public certainly appear to appreciate this section almost as much as the competitive exhibits and spend no small portion of their time in thoroughly examining all the old and new inventions so essential to successful poultry keeping. New appliances are continually being demanded and the manufacturer is not slow in falling in with the wishes of his clients. This season has seen a demand for the "intensive" plant which we have adopted from our cousins across the water and the small army of pioneers who have been diligently experimenting with it are loud in their praises of it. Consequently the manufacturer has turned his attention in this direction with the result that a fair number of highly practical appliances specially adapted to the requirements of the "Intensivists" were to be seen. To give anything like an adequate survey of the exhibits made by manufacturers would take up more space than we are prepared to allot, but the following short résumé of the stands—arranged alphabetically—will give the reader an idea of the many trade features of the Show.

**Abbot Bros., Thuxton, Norfolk.** This is, we believe, the first time that the East of England poultry farms have been represented at the Dairy Show and a fine exhibit was made by Mr. Harry Abbot who was in attendance. The stall was made attractive by a display of many British and Continental diplomas won by the firm for their birds, whilst the general exhibits consisted of samples of foods and medicines and models of poultry appliances which they manufacture. The firm issue an extraordinary fine catalogue containing many photographic views of their establishment.

**Craven & Sons, Corporation Street, Manchester.** A full and comprehensive line of poultry and pigeon hampers and all sundries relating to poultry keeping was shown by this enterprising firm. Messrs. Craven report a continued demand for their wares by all classes of poultry keepers whose demands for new and up-to-date appliances are being met with promptitude.

**Cooper & Sons, G., Bramford, Ipswich,** were showing amongst other foods their highly popular "Lukchic" which has met with the highest possible praise from all users. To meet the demand for a chick food embodying a large proportion of insects, they have introduced "Lukchic Special" which has been found of great value in rearing.

**Cyphers Incubator Co., 119, Finsbury Pavement, E.C.** A very fine display of the world renowned "Cyphers" incubators and brooders was made. The pioneers of the non-moisture type of incubator report an ever increasing demand for their wares by the British poultry keeper. They had on view all their latest up-to-date models, several being in operation. A number of new features and improvements have been introduced, all of which have met with the approval of users. The Company's display was augmented by a full line of poultry meals including the Alfalfa meal, of which they were the introducers in this country.

**Cook & Sons, W., Orpington House, St. Mary Cray.** This old established house occupied the same position as it has done for many years past and had a very attractive stand whereon were shown samples of foods, grits and medicines. Cook's famous poultry powder, the first of its kind to be placed upon the market, is, we understand, in greater demand than ever, and testimonials continue to pour in from delighted users, praising its wonderful egg-producing qualities. The display was attractively set off with a large number of photographs of the firm's poultry pens and new rearing establishment at Wilmington.

**Cook, William H., Ltd., Orpington.** The usual pictorial exhibit was arranged by Mr. W. H. Cook, his stand being a veritable picture gallery of photos of his

new farm and prize winning birds. The managing director was personally in attendance and was kept very busy booking orders and proffering advice to those who were in need of it. Mr. Cook's new establishment will shortly be completed, and he extends a hearty welcome to all readers to come down and inspect what he describes as being "the last word in poultry plants."

**Chipmans Ltd., Staines.** Chipman's lampless foster mothers and brooders were again a centre of attraction. These very excellent appliances are daily securing fresh adherents, and, we are informed, the firm has received nothing but praise from users. Chickens reared in these appliances certainly look strong and healthy and the percentage of deaths is extremely small.

**Dairy Outfit Co., Ltd., Kings Cross, London, N.** made a very effective display of their egg boxes and incubators. This firm has gained a world wide reputation for egg boxes amongst poultry keepers and dairymen, their "Standard," "Pocock," and "Cushion" boxes being universally used and highly praised for their durability and lightness. They were also showing some excellent examples of combination boxes for eggs, poultry and butter, in addition to the "Standard" positive incubator and "metal hen" brooder.

**Dairy Supply Co., Museum Street, W.C.** The "Aerolite" egg box was the chief article of interest to poultry keepers shown by this firm. For the box, several important advantages are claimed, viz., lightness, cheapness and safety. It is certainly a very practical appliance and ensures eggs from breakage in transit and by its lightness should provide a great saving in railway charges.

**Finch & Fleming, Ltd., Flitwick, Beds.,** occupied their usual position and had a very attractive display of incubators, brooders, etc. A novelty shown was the "Norwich Automatic Feeder" a practical and economical labour saving device, which should be of great value to poultry keepers.

**Gamage Ltd., A. W., Holborn, E.C.** This firm was showing the "Stern's" green bone cutter which is highly prized amongst poultry keepers. They had also on view the "Holborn" incubators and brooders and several smaller, but equally useful appliances.

**Gloucester Incubator Co., Gloucester.** We are always impressed by the exhibit made by this firm because they invariably have something new and practical to submit to poultry keepers. The "Gloucester" incubators and brooders have secured a foremost position as successful hatchers and rearers whilst they possess more patented improvements than any other machines of the type on the market. Amongst the latest devices attached to the incubator is the improved lamp which holds sufficient oil for the whole hatch. There is also a reflector attached to the door devised to throw a beam of light upon the thermometer, thus making the reading a simple matter. The self-turning egg tray is a masterpiece of ingenuity. By one movement of the hand, in less than a second, every egg is turned without the slightest effort and without jarring. The latest improvement is an automatic door closing device. It is acknowledged that thousands of hatches are spoiled yearly by people who overlook closing the incubator door after the daily cooling of eggs. By the aid of this appliance, all fears of such a calamity are avoided. By a simple arrangement of a lever attached to the door and regulated by an ordinary alarm clock, the door automatically closes at the moment required. The manufacturers are to be congratulated upon their many improvements, all of which go a long way towards making the operator's work more successful.

**Hebditch, Harry, Martock, Som.** The wide reputation for quality and workmanship of his appliances is amply testified by the growth of Mr. Hebditch's business during the past few years. Many examples of his wares were on view including such well known selling lines as the "Yankee," "Excelsior," and "Empire" houses. The "Hebditch" incubator and "Lorna



# TAMLIN'S 100,000 SATISFIED CUSTOMERS

Tamlin's enjoys. That was the foundation-stone of our success—always giving a big measure of value for the smallest outlay. A notable instance of this fact is the enormous sales of the

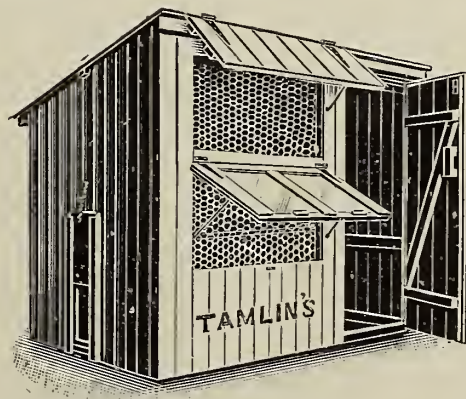
To have 100,000 satisfied customers is a source of immense gratification to any business firm and is the only way to build up and keep up a huge business like

## TAMLIN'S POULTRY HOUSES

which have now exceeded those of any other maker in the United Kingdom, and to keep up with the present huge demand for our Houses it has become necessary for our factory to turn out at the rate of six Houses in every working hour. What sounder evidence could be produced in their favour? We have the factory—the staff—the experience to manufacture better than others and we **DO**, and we shall never relinquish our endeavours to produce a better Poultry House at a lower price than our competitors, which will always justify our claim for them—**THE BEST VALUE IN THE WORLD.** In the Tamlin Catalogue there are fifty designs and sizes of Poultry Houses, together with two hundred and fifty other Appliances for Poultry Keepers, all of which are illustrated, and it's free and post free of

**W. TAMLIN,**  
**40 St. Margarets,**  
**Twickenham, London.**

THE LARGEST INCUBATOR AND POULTRY APPLIANCE  
MANUFACTURERS IN THE WORLD.





Doone" foster mother are both marvels of durability and cheapness and have won high encomiums from all users. His catalogue describes many other excellent appliances and it may here be mentioned that so thoroughly convinced is he of the value of his houses that they are sold on approval and money will be refunded if found unsatisfactory.

**Hobson & Co., J. T., Bedford.** A full range of poultry houses, coops and runs was exhibited by this old-established firm. An outstanding item was the "Conqueror" poultry pen—certainly a marvel for the money—which met with the general approval of visitors. Messrs. Hobson manufacture perhaps a larger variety of poultry houses than any other firm on the market. Their goods are always dependable, being constructed soundly of well seasoned timber and retailed at prices which should suit the most exacting purchaser.

**Liverine Ltd., Grimsby,** had a fine display of foods, including the now generally used "Liverine," a valuable article of diet for both poultry and ducks; "Livo" and "C.C.C." chick foods. The firm has recently placed upon the market a perfected clover meal; this is a great improvement upon the ordinary cut clover, being ground to a fine powder, thus making it easy to mix with soft food. It is acknowledged that no vegetable product is more efficient as an egg producer.

**"Lasco" Ltd., Carruthers Street, Liverpool.** It was unfortunate that this firm's exhibit was situated away from the usual poultry appliances section and consequently was overlooked by many interested in this wonderful egg producing food. They had an attractive stand on the ground floor, the feature of which was the display of the two silver challenge cups recently offered in their great £100 egg competition. The prize winning eggs were also on view. Business generally is reported as being very brisk and the proprietors are pleased to announce that their "Lasco" meat meal is being used in the U.P.C. Twelve Months Laying Competition now in progress at the Harper-Adams Agricultural College, Newport, Salop.

**Marshall, James, 12, Regent Quay, Aberdeen.** Egg boxes and cases of all sizes were exhibited by this enterprising Scottish firm. The "Simplex" is probably one of the biggest selling lines in North Britain and is acknowledged as one of the safest, lightest and strongest cases on the market. It is well finished, being bound round each end with strong galvanised wire which makes it practically unbreakable and certainly would withstand any amount of rough handling. The "Bentrovato" case for farm produce is one of the handiest combination boxes we have seen and is retailed at a very low figure. Mr. Marshall's catalogue is also a very fine example of the printer's art and should be secured by all interested in egg handling.

**Molassine Co. Ltd., Greenwich, S.E.** had as usual an attractive stand whereon they were showing Molassine Meal for poultry, dogs, horses and cattle. For the Molassine Laying Meal, the firm claim that it has no equal for egg production.

**Morland Appliance Co., Crawley.** The "Morland" double brooder was the special feature of this stand. For it, the firm claim that it is the most economical and efficient rearer on the market to-day. It is the only brooder containing two warm chambers heated by one lamp and is so ventilated that different temperatures can be maintained in each warm chamber at one and the same time. It is soundly practical and constructed of good material by experienced workmen. The brooder has received high praise from several of the foremost experts in the country.

**Meech, Randolph, Poole, Dorset.** In addition to a full range of poultry houses, runs, etc., of the author'dox type Mr. Meech, as becomes him as the pioneer of the "Intensive" system in Great Britain, made a special show of all the appliances necessary for this new system of poultry keeping which is likely to revolutionise the industry. His exhibition was undoubtedly the outstanding feature of the Dairy Show and was inspected

by large crowds daily. Such appliances as the "City" laying house, the "City" fireless brooder, "City" brooder coop, "City" developing coop and "City" double decker house are now familiar to most of our readers but the mammoth "City" hennerly is undoubtedly the very last word in intensive poultry keeping. This is a huge structure, measuring some 40 feet by 20 and capable of accommodating 250 laying hens kept strictly in confinement. As space will not permit of an adequate description, we strongly recommend our readers to secure Mr. Meech's new catalogue describing the system which will undoubtedly impress one with its possibilities.

**Miller, Robert, Stirlingshire Poultry Farm, Denny N.B.** Mr. Miller took the opportunity of introducing to the "Southerner" some new ideas in incubators and poultry house construction. For his patent hot-air incubator with moisture device in the shape of a narrow water-tray above the upper diaphragm, he claims to have solved the problem of "dead in shell." The "S.P.F." poultry house certainly fulfils all the requirements of a "perfect house for laying hens" and came in for a deal of favourable comment from visitors.

**Phipps, A. E. W., Harborne, Birmingham.** "Perfection" incubators and foster mothers are now household words amongst poultry keepers and therefore need no introduction. The demand continues to increase and to meet the wishes of a certain section of his clients, Mr. Phipps has recently introduced the "Premier" hot-air incubator which has thus early earned great praise from users. He has also given his attention to the fireless brooder problem, and, as a result, has placed upon the market an appliance which has been received with much approval by eminent poultry keepers. Like all Mr. Phipps' goods, it is soundly constructed.

**Phosto Co., Emsworth, Hants.** The value of "Phosto" is rapidly becoming known to the majority of poultry keepers and it is gratifying to learn from Mr. Arthur Hartley that the sale of his very excellent preparation has surpassed his wildest anticipations. "Phosto" is now widely used by all breeders who are desirous of securing large framed white fleshed birds. It is an excellent "show conditioner" and unrivalled for producing strong germs and increasing egg production. The many testimonials received in praise of "Phosto" make convincing reading.

**Robinsons Patents, Ltd., 332, Goswell Road, E.C.** This old established firm were again much in evidence and had on view many examples of their 180 sizes and varieties of egg and produce packages. Such well-known boxes as the "Anti-Smash," "Featherweight" and "Smithfield" were to be inspected, and, we learn, continue to gain popularity. The firm's farm produce boxes for the conveyance of eggs, poultry, butter and such like are constantly in demand. In fact they are proving so popular that it has been found expedient to keep extending the sizes and varieties.

**Spratts Patents, Ltd., 24 Fenchurch Street, E.C.** No show would be complete without "Spratts" and no well-organised poultry farm without the firm's products. They were showing as usual a comprehensive display of foods and medicines including "Laymor," "Crissel," "Chikko," etc. The world famous "Hearson" incubators, brooders, foster mothers, crammers, etc., were also on view.

**Spillers & Bakers, Ltd., Cardiff.** All the well known "Victoria" specialities manufactured by this firm were to be seen here. "Victoria" chicken meal, we are informed, continues to increase in popularity amongst poultry keepers.

**Stephens, Horace W., Linden Road, Gloucester,** made a good show of poultry appliances of every description including the highly popular "Glevum" non-moisture incubators and foster mothers.

**Tamlin, Wm., St. Margarets Works, Twickenham.** The usual colossal display was made by Mr. Tamlin whose two large bays were always the centre of attraction during the show, and good business was reported. The justly popular "Nonpareil" incubators in various sizes



# MRS. WILKINSON,

CELEBRATED BREEDER AND EXHIBITOR OF

**BUFF, BLACK AND WHITE ORPINGTONS,**

**BARRED, BUFF AND WHITE ROCKS . .**

Has won with above varieties

**Recent wins at  
DAIRY SHOW**

**October, 1912:**

**White Orpington Pullet, First  
and**

**Challenge Silver Cup  
for best White Orpington; also  
Silver Medal**

**for best Orpington Pullet in  
Show.**

**Barred Rock Cockerel:—FIRST  
and THREE SPECIALS.**

**Buff Orp. Cockerel:—RESERVE.**

**Buff Orpington Cockerel (limit  
class):—THIRD.**

**White Orpington Cockerel (limit  
class):—SECOND.**

→ **111 Silver Cups.**

**Latest win at Haywards Heath:—Poultry  
Club Silver Cup for best Orpington in  
the Show with White Orpington Pullet.**

At Grand International, Crystal Palace, and Club Shows alone has won an average of 15 Silver Cups, Specials and First Prizes for the last six years.

Has won the Challenge Cup five times for best Buff Orpington Cockerel at the Buff Orpington Club Shows, in fact has won 22 Buff Orpington Club Silver Cups, which is surely a proof of her strain standing supreme.

Mrs. W. has also won Champion Challenge Trophy three years in succession for best Plymouth Rock at the Grand International Show.

At Crystal Palace Show alone, in 1907-8-9 and 10, eleven Silver Cups were won with birds bred from breeding pens or eggs sold, thus proving she sells as well as retains good reliable stock.

A great speciality is made of properly mated breeding pens or trios of Orpingtons and Plymouth Rocks; hence the above wins by her customers.

→ **30 Silver Cups**

have been won by purchasers of stock and eggs from Mrs. Wilkinson at Shows where all the prominent exhibitors compete.

**BIRDS SHIPPED TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.**

**(Over three thousand shipped last twelve months)**

Three days' approval in England.

Cash with order, which will be returned at once if birds not approved of.

**Burrow House, Scotforth  
LANCASTER.**

Telephone—13 GALGATE.

Inspection Invited.



TABLE OF PRICES REALISED FOR HOME, COLONIAL, AND FOREIGN POULTRY, GAME, AND EGGS FOR THE FOUR WEEKS ENDING OCTOBER 12, 1912.

ENGLISH POULTRY—LONDON MARKETS.					FOREIGN POULTRY—LONDON MARKETS.				
DESCRIPTION.	1st Week.	2nd Week.	3rd Week.	4th Week.	COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN.				
	Each.	Each.	Each.	Each.					
Surrey Chickens ...	2/6 to 3/6	2/9 to 3/6	2/9 to 3/6	2/9 to 3/6	Russia .....	—	—	—	—
Sussex " .....	2/6 " 3/6	2/9 " 3/6	2/9 " 3/6	2/9 " 3/6	Belgium .....	—	—	—	—
Boston " .....	2/0 " 3/0	2/0 " 3/0	2/0 " 3/3	1/9 " 3/0	France .....	—	—	—	—
Essex " .....	2/0 " 2/9	2/0 " 3/0	2/0 " 3/0	2/0 " 3/3	United States of America ...	—	—	—	—
Capons .....	4/0 " 7/0	5/0 " 6/0	5/0 " 6/0	5/0 " 6/0	Austria .....	—	—	—	—
Irish Chickens ...	1/6 " 2/9	1/6 " 2/9	1/6 " 2/9	1/6 " 2/9	Canada .....	—	—	—	—
Live Hens .....	1/6 " 2/3	1/6 " 2/3	1/6 " 2/3	1/4 " 2/3	Australia .....	—	—	—	—
Aylesbury Ducks	2/9 " 3/9	3/0 " 4/0	2/9 " 3/9	2/6 " 3/3					
Ducks .....	2/3 " 3/6	2/6 " 3/6	2/6 " 3/6	2/3 " 3/0					
Goslings per lb. ....	1/7½ " 8½	1/7½ " 8½	7 " 8	6½ " 8					
Turkeys Poults .....	4/0 " 7/6	4/0 " 7/6	4/0 " 7/6	4/0 " 7/6					
ENGLISH GAME—LONDON MARKETS.					FOREIGN GAME.				
DESCRIPTION.	Each.	Each.	Each.	Each.	COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN.				
Capercailzie .....	—	—	—	—	LONDON MARKETS.				
Black Game .....	—	—	—	—					
Partridge .....	—	—	—	—	FOREIGN GAME.				
Quail .....	—	—	—	—					
Bordeaux Pigeons .....	1/10 to 1/2	—	—	—	IMPORTS OF POULTRY AND GAME.				
Hares .....	—	—	—	—					
Rabbits .....	—	—	—	—	MONTH ENDING SEPT. 30TH, 1912.				
Suipie .....	—	—	—	—					
IRISH EGGS.					COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN.				
DESCRIPTION.	1st Week.	2nd Week.	3rd Week.	4th Week.	DECLARED VALUES.				
	Per 120.	Per 120.	Per 120.	Per 120.					
Irish Eggs	10/6 to 12/0	10/6 to 12/0	10/6 to 12/0	12/3 to 13/6	Poultry.				
					Game.				
					Totals.....				
					Totals.....				
ENGLISH EGGS (Guaranteed New-Laid).					FOREIGN EGGS.				
MARKETS.	Per 120.	Per 120.	Per 120.	Per 120.	COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN.				
LONDON .....	13/- to 14/-	13/- to 15/-	13/- to 15/-	13/- to 15/0	MONTH ENDING SEPT. 30, 1912				
Provinces.	Eggs per dozen.	Eggs per dozen.	Eggs per dozen.	Eggs per dozen.					
CARLISLE .....	1/2	1/4	1/6	1/8	COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN.				
BRISTOL .....	1/2½	1/3	1/4½	1/5½					
					Quantities in Gt. Hund.				
					Declared Values.				
					Totals .....				



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if the right foods are used.

**MOLASSINE  
POULTRY AND CHICKEN  
MEALS**

have, in addition to the feeding properties of the ordinary poultry foods upon the market, the enormous advantage of keeping birds healthy, improving the plumage, and aiding digestion.

**Molassine Chicken Meal.**

(Makes strong, healthy Chicks. Should be fed up to two months old.) .. 18/- per cwt

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(A splendid utility Meal. For poultry from two months old to maturity.) .. 18/- per cwt.

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(A highly concentrated soft Meal; specially recommended as a morning feed.) .. 13/6 per cwt.

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SPECIALISTS BREEDERS OF

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**CHALLENGE CUP AND CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS**

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**DAIRY SHOW.****TWO CHAMPIONSHIPS.****TWO SPECIALS. FIVE FIRSTS.****ONE SECOND. TWO THIRDS.****TWO FOURTHS. ONE FIFTH.****RECORD SUCCESSES.**

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were an outstanding feature of the exhibit. Several were busily engaged hatching out chickens and pheasants whilst the "Nonpareil" foster mothers had their full complement of strong, healthy chickens. With such a wide range of goods, it is difficult to single out any for special mention, suffice it to say that all the popular lines in houses, coops, runs, etc. were to be found here. Amongst those which attracted our special attention were the "Surbiton," "Hampton," "Cranford," "Moor-mead," and "Twickenham" houses. The "Isleworth" scratching sheds and "Whitton" cockerel pens are well made appliances which are of marvellous value for the money asked. There were also a full line of "smalls" such as oyster shell, grits, egg producing powders, medicines and meals.

**Thorpe & Sons, A., Rye, Sussex.** The manufacturers of the highly popular "Cock of the Walk" poultry meal occupied their usual position and had on view a very wide range of meals, grits, medicines, etc. The demand for this firm's wares continues to increase and favourable reports of the value of their foods are being received

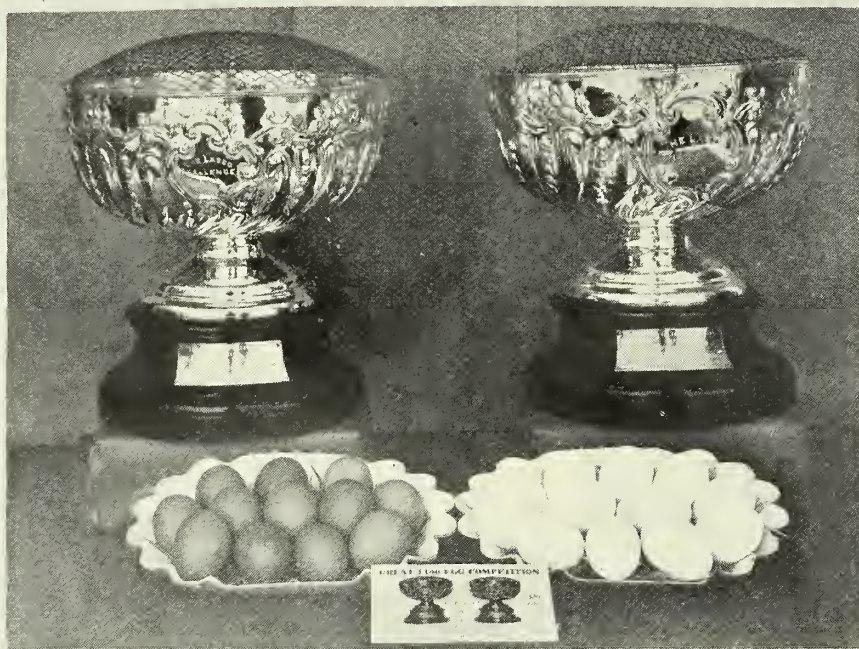
## ITEMS OF THE MONTH.

### £100 Egg Competition.

This Competition, promoted by the "Lasco" Poultry Meal Co., of Carruthers Street, Liverpool, who offered two 25 Guinea Challenge Cups and money prizes to the total value of £50, took place on the 26th September at the premises of the British Poultry Federation, Ltd., 26, Hosier Lane, London, E.C.

Seventy-one entries were received, 31 for white eggs and 40 for brown. The actual number of exhibits were, however, considerably less, and these were in many instances spoilt by careless handling of the boxes by the railway and other carriers.

The standard for judging was that laid down by the joint Committee of the National Poultry Organisation and the Utility Poultry Club, the points being awarded as follows: For Freshness, 40 points; Texture of Shell, 15 points; Size, 15 points; Uniformity of Colour, Size, and Shape, 15 points; and Cleanliness and Bloom, 15 points.



Prizes in the £100 Egg Competition. (See this page).

from all quarters where large egg yields are demanded. Messrs. Thorpe's booklet containing hints on feeding is a useful publication which should be in the hands of all interested. It will be posted gratis to all enquirers.

**Toope & Co., R., Stepney, E.** Amongst a large selection of excellent appliances shewn by Messrs. Toope were their "Asbestic Hen" incubators which are claimed to be the only damp proof and fire proof incubators on the market, the "Ideal" brooder, grain sprouter and several examples of houses.

Other exhibitors included Messrs. Osborne & Young, Ltd., Brixton (foods for poultry and pigeons); W. F. Snell, Yeovil (Appliances); P. Proud & Sons, Birkdale, Southport (foods, grits and medicines); Walker, Harrison & Garthwaites, Ltd., Ratcliffe Cross, E. (foods); W. G. Clarke & Sons, Limehouse, E. (foods); Parrish's Patent Cooker, Ltd., Derby (poultry food cookers); A. Neverson, Peakirk (appliances); J. Thorley, Ltd., Kings Cross, N. (Ovum for poultry); John Service, Barnet (appliances); W. Vale, South Norwood (medicines & books); A. Cook, Waterloo Bridge (baskets); T. P. Bethell (egg boxes); Allen Poultry Co., Ltd., Sawbridgeworth; J. Ashby & Sons, Brixton, S.W.; Castle Foods Co., Ltd., Queenboro', Kent; Cardon & Cresno, Chancery Lane, E.C.; Dixon's, Handsworth; and Gilbertson & Page, Ltd. Hertford.

### CLASS 1, 12 WHITE EGGS.

1ST PRIZE, 25 GUINEA SILVER CHALLENGE CUP AND £2 CASH, won by Wm. Barron, Bartle, near Preston.

2ND PRIZE, CASH £2, won by Mrs. Ibberson, Hutton.

3RD PRIZE, CASH £1 10s., won by Mrs. Harding, Bath.

CASH PRIZES, £1 EACH, won by Mr. J. A. Clarke, Huddersfield; Mr. John Ellis, Bilton; Mr. John Fox, Hollow Meadows; Mr. Thos. Lidbetter, Leeds; Miss Harriett Furney, Wexford.

PRIZES VALUE 10/- EACH, won by Mrs. E. M. Fawkes, Allesley; Mr. H. E. Plant, Ross-on-Wye; Mr. Wm. Andrew, Higher Trannmere; Mr. Edgar Abbott, Braintree; Mr. T. J. Skelton, Wylde Green, Birmingham; Mr. E. Harris, Faringdon; Mr. Hubert K. Unsworth, Grimsburgh; Mr. Frank Goodhead, Winskill; Mr. Hugh Jones, Prestolee, near Stoneclough; Mr. J. R. Jones, Newtown.

### CLASS 2, FOR 12 BROWN OR TINTED EGGS.

1ST PRIZE, 25 GUINEA SILVER CHALLENGE CUP AND £2 CASH, won by Mr. Wm. Barron, Bartle, near Preston.

2ND PRIZE, CASH £2, won by Mr. Williams, Great Shaghall.



Unrivalled for  
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**A GENERAL TONIC.**

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awarded to Birds reared on  
**STAINTHORP'S FOODS.**  
**HERE'S AN EYE OPENER FOR OTHERS.**

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It is the same in every line of life, and that is why Stainthorp's Chicken Foods are so superior to other makes. Stainthorp has concentrated his attention on Poultry and their requirements. He has been judge at the principal poultry exhibitions for many years. For thirty years Poultry has been his "fad," and he has manufactured Chicken Foods, the product of these years of careful study and experience.

Stainthorp knows exactly what an exhibition specimen should be, but better, he has discovered how to bring out those qualities which bring home the Cups and First Prizes. Experts acknowledge that correct feeding from Chickenhood is the chief rung on the ladder of the successful Poultry Keeper. Successful men speak of Stainthorp's Foods as having no rival. It is just a matter of knowing why you should rely on a certain food. It is obvious that Stainthorp must know what is the best for poultry, better than manufacturers who have not really studied the question. He has judged 974 shows.

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Honeycott, Hawes.

April 13th, 1912.

DEAR SIR,

Please send me next week 10 cwt. of your Champion Chicken Meal and 1 cwt. Biscuit Meal. We are rearing our chickens this year entirely on your meal with a little wheat after the first fortnight. At the present date we have close on 900 chickens that have had your meal four times per day, and a healthier lot we never owned. 187 are January hatched.

Yours sincerely,

J. WHARTON.

R. Stainthorp, Esq., Darlington.

Quarry Farm, Pool, Leeds, April 3rd, 1912

DEAR SIR,

Enclosed please find cheque in settlement of your account for chicken meal. I should also be glad if you would put on rail at once a further 6 cwt. addressed to Pool Station, N.E. Rly. I cannot find anything to beat it. I have used it extensively this season, and never had fewer losses and never had Chickens grow and feather so well. I think it is an ideal food and most economical,

Yours faithfully,

FRED. TOOTILL.

### PRICES OF MY SPECIALITIES:

	Cwt.	½ Cwt.	¼ Cwt.		Cwt.	½ Cwt.	¼ Cwt.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Champion Chicken Food ...	16 0	8 6	5 0	Special Biscuit Meal for Poultry ...	16 0	9 0	5 3
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Champion Turkey Food ...	18 0	9 6	5 6	Chicken Grit ...	5 0	3 0	2 0
Champion Poultry Food ...	14 0	7 6	4 6				

ALL GOODS CARRIAGE PAID.

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See Advertisement page X.

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Smallholders' and Poultry-Keepers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., 147, Stroud Green Road, London, N.

Date.....191...

I, the undersigned, hereby apply for shares of £1 each, payable by instalments,\* in the above-named Society, in respect of which, together with ONE SHILLING Entrance Fee, and Sixpence for copy of the Rules of the Society,† I enclose you the sum of £ , and I agree to accept the shares in accordance with the rules of the Society, and to be bound thereby.

Usual Signature.....

Please  
write  
distinctly.

Name in full (Mr., Mrs., or Miss).....

Address .....

Profession or Occupation.....

\* Strike out one line.

† Strike out if a copy of the Rules is **not** required.

Cheques, Postal and Money Orders to be made payable to the Smallholders' and Poultry-Keepers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., and crossed London and South Western Bank (Stroud Green Branch), and sent with this form to the Secretary, 147, Stroud Green Road, London, N.



3RD PRIZE, CASH £1 10s., won by Mr. T. Lidbetter, Leeds.  
PRIZES VALUE £1 EACH, won by Mr. F. W. Selby, Stoke Priory; Mr. J. Craven, Pudsey; Mr. N. Butcher, Leominster; Mr. Frank Brindley, Astbury; Mr. W. A. Holmes, Chesterfield.

PRIZES VALUE 10/- EACH, won by Mrs. E. M. Fawkes, Allesley; Mrs. Eastwood, Hoylake; Mr. Edgar Abbot, Braintree; Mrs. Louisa Braund, Shaldon; Mrs. J. Ibberson, Hutton; Mr. J. R. Jones, Newtown; Mr. Wm. Sayers, Guildford; Mr. E. Harris, Faringdon; Mrs. L. R. Brockie, Liscard; Mrs. Kathleen Cane, Billinghamurst.

PRIZES VALUE 5/- EACH, won by Mrs. Harding, Bath; Mrs. S. James, Berriew; Mr. John R. Turton, Raby, Cheshire; Mr. J. W. Bottomley, Barkisland; Mr. Herbert K. Unsworth, Grimsargh; Mr. E. E. Dawson, Dingle; Mr. T. J. Skelton, Wylde Green, Birmingham; Mrs. Hawkeshaw, Ross-on-Wye; Mr. J. A. Clarke, Huddersfield; Mrs. James Ashton, Kirkdale; Mr. William Mawdsley, Mawdsley; Mrs. Harry Bull, New Brighton; Mrs. E. Stott, Birkenhead; Mrs. Helen Lebri, Burnham-on-Crouch.

The eggs were subsequently presented to St. Bartholomew's Hospital for use of the patients.

The Judges' report is as follows:—"The first prize-winner is to be congratulated not only upon his dual success but also upon the very high standard of excellence of his exhibits. He showed considerable knowledge of the standard required, because his eggs earned almost full points and were far in advance of those of any other competitor. It was somewhat difficult to place second and third, but the 'freshness' test was the deciding factor. It is to be regretted that there were so many eggs damaged in transit, the senders exhibiting very little knowledge of the art of packing."

### Breeders' Magic Egg-Tester.

The testing of eggs to ascertain their fertility is a matter of considerable importance to the breeder, and accordingly any new method that can be devised is eagerly welcomed. A most ingenious egg-tester has now been put on the market and the excellence of its results show that it is practical in every way. The Breeders' Magic Egg-Tester derives its name from its characteristic. Called Breeders because of the fact that the chicks from the "O" to "XX" eggs make the breeders of the highest laying power as regards early fecundity number of eggs, and propagation of this same quality to, the stock indefinitely. The principal features of this tester are that it enables the breeder to pick out the best eggs and at the same time it shows if and to what extent the atmosphere has entered the egg. The entrance of the atmosphere through the porous shell (before incubation) injures the "vital force" and therefore the chances of germ life and its development. The Tester shows further all particulars of the egg so that the breeder can tell at once what class of bird may be looked for. The Breeders' Magic Egg-Tester may be obtained from the sole agents for Great Britain, R. Toope and Co., Stepney Square, E.

### Mr. Tamlin's Exports.

The following is a list of W. Tamlin's exports for September, 1912. Six 60 and three 100 incubators, to C. W. Champion, agent for the Orange Free State; six 60 incubators, to J. F. Marshall, agent for the Transvaal, S. Africa; two 60 and two 100 incubators, to A. F. Philips and Co., agent for Rhodesia; two 100 incubators and one 100 foster-mother, to Fernand Colman, agent for Belgium; six 100 incubators and six 300 foster-mothers, to Mons. Andre Masson, agent for France; one 100 incubator and one 100 foster-mother, to Countess de Nontgrillon, France; one 100 incubator, to J. Baudet, France; one 200 incubator and one 100 foster-mother, to G. Loughton, Buenos Ayres; one 60 incubator, to T. Lendrum, Boston, U.S.A.; one 100, also one 60 incubator, one 60 foster-mother, to G. M. Roberts, Kurrachee, India; one 30 incubator and one Surbiton Poultry House, to Mrs. T. Fish, Italy; one 60 incubator, one pen White Wyandotte fowls, to Geo. Patrie, W. C. Africa; one 100 incubator, to S. S. Dodd, East Africa.

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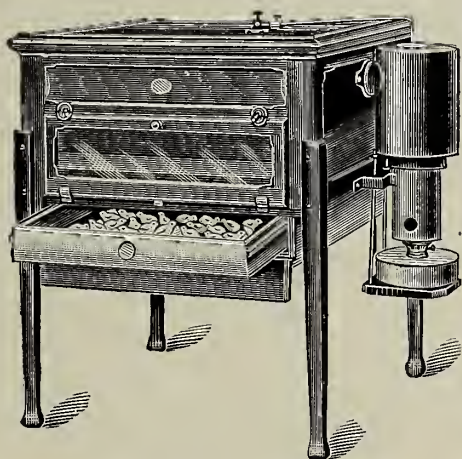
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**GUARANTEE.**—We guarantee that you will hatch finer, larger, and healthier chicks in the "GLOUCESTER" Incubator, and more of them than in any other machine; and after three months' trial of it, if you think you can buy a better one, you are at liberty to send it back and we will refund you what you have paid in full.

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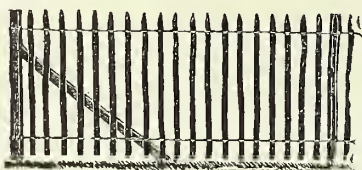
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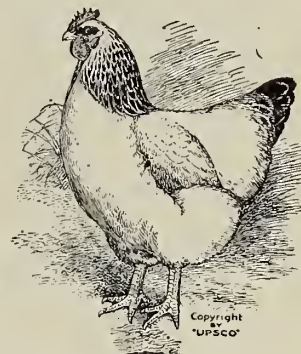
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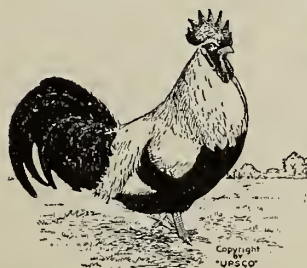
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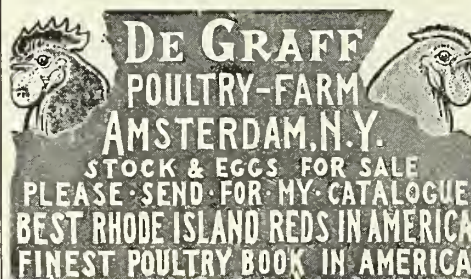
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